Ace Attorney

Phoenix Wright

™

Story by Kenji Kuroda
Art by Kazuo Maekawa

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Supervised by
CAPCOM

VOLUME ONE

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Translated and adapted by Alethea Nibley and Athena Nibley
Lettered by North Market Street Graphics

This book is a faithful translation of the book
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HONORIFICS EXPLAINED

Throughout the Kodansha Comics books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Kodansha Comics not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Kodansha Comics books.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/ Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

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CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS

PHOENIX WRIGHT
The hero of our story. A hot-blooded defense attorney, referred to lovingly as "Nick." At a young age, he is managing his own firm, Wright & Co. Law Offices. Believing in his defendants' innocence, and raising his **objections** with a turnabout spirit he presses toward the truth even now!!

MAYA FEY
The assistant at Wright & Co. Law Offices. With a bright and indomitable attitude, she is a good partner, who plays an active part helping Phoenix solve cases. She also has a playful side, and is a big fan of the action superhero, the Steel Samurai. Her favorite food is burgers, and she also likes miso ramen.

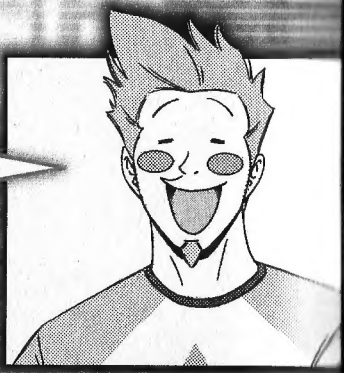
Ace Attorney Phoenix Wright

The characters, laws, and court procedures in this work are all fiction. Accordingly, the court system of this story is set in the near future, where the demand for expedited trials creates a different system than that of present-day.

THE JUDGE
The court judge, who looks dignified but actually is not. He has a habit of gullibly swallowing every scenario fed him by Phoenix or Edgeworth. His name is unknown.

MILES EDGEWORTH
Phoenix's greatest rival. He has been known as a genius prosecutor ever since he started out in the profession. In fact, he and Phoenix knew each other as children, and were the best of friends, bound together by trust.

LARRY BUTZ
A friend of Phoenix's since grade school. He has a knack for getting into trouble, due to his inherent bad luck. Unfortunately, he also has bad luck in the dating department....



DICK GUMSHOE
A detective in charge of murder investigations. He's a few cards shy of a deck, and sometimes misses important clues. Every time he does, he gets a paycut, so his salary is very low.

WINSTON PAYNE
A veteran prosecutor, but he lacks presence, and is completely unreliable. Stress has caused his hairline to recede. In a word, he's dull.

Chapter 1
TURNABOUT
WITH THE WIND

HUFF...
HUFF...
DATE AND TIME UNKNOWN
PLACE UNKNOWN...
HUFF...
WH... WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME...?
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
I HAVE TO CALL HIM... FAST...

A-LING
A-LING
BARRING
ルルルル…
BARRING
ルルルル…
BARRING
ルルルル…
A-LING
A-LING

AUGUST 11, 10:20 AM
GOURD LAKE PUBLIC BEACH
GOURD LAKE
WIND CHIME
FESTIVAL
FRITTERS
CHOCO BANANA
OOOH, LOOK AT ALL THE WIND CHIMES! ♪
RATTLE
ISN'T THIS FUN, NICK?
I WONDER IF THEY HAVE A GIANT STEEL SAMURAI CHIME?
RATTLE
THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO SHOOT OFF FIREWORKS WHEN IT GETS DARK.
SPIKE
SPIKE

AWW, REALLY?
THEN WE SHOULD HAVE COME AT NIGHT.
NO WAY. THE PLACE WILL BE PACKED BY THEN.
YOU WOULD BE TRAMPLED, MAYA.
SEE ALL THE POLICE HANGING AROUND? THEY'RE ON STANDBY FOR TONIGHT.
WOW, YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHERE WOULD WE HANG SO WIND CHIMES?
SCAMPER.
NICK, LET'S BUY SO!
SQUEE
SQUEE
SCAMPER
EEEE ♡ LOOK, LOOK! THOSE CHIMES ARE SO CUTE!
A-LING
BUT YOUR OFFICE IS SOOOOO DREARY, NICK!
I KNOW! WHY DON'T YOU WEAR THEM LIKE EARRINGS?
THERE♡
A NEW FASHION STATEMENT...
HMM, LET'S SEE. FIVE ON YOUR DESK,
AND WE'LL HANG SOME FROM THE CEILING...
OH! AND FROM CHARLEY! ♪
THAT WOULD GET ANNOYING REAL FAST...
RUMMAGE
I KNOW! I'LL CALL HER! ♪
GIMME YOUR PHONE!
YOU THINK SO? PEARLY WOULD THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA.
FORGET IT. IT'LL WEIRD OUT OUR CLIENTS. THEY'LL STOP COMING.
DANGLE

チリーン
LING-A-LING
チリーン
LING-A-LING
MY NAME IS PHOENIX WRIGHT. I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'M A DEFENSE ATTORNEY.
I'M FINALLY STARTING TO MAKE A NAME FOR MYSELF, BUT... A LOT OF PEOPLE DOUBT MY RELIABILITY.
HELLO, PEARLY?
THIS IS MAYA FEY. SHE'S WORKING AS MY ASSISTANT.

SHE'S TALKING TO *PEARL FEY*, AKA PEARLY OR PEARLS. MAYA'S COUSIN.
?
?
MAYA AND PEARLS BOTH HAVE A SPECIAL POWER I ALMOST DON'T BELIEVE MYSELF. WE'LL GO OVER THAT LATER...
GUESS WHERE WE ARE! A WIND CHIME FESTIVAL!
SHE'S VERY CHILDISH, AND NOT AS ATTRACTIVE AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT FROM SOMEONE HER AGE.
A-LING
A-LING
CAN YOU HEAR IT? I'M RINGING ONE! ♪
A-LING
A-LING
A-LING
A-LING
A-LING
WHAT? YOU CAN'T HEAR IT?
THAT'S WEIRD. IS YOUR PHONE BROKEN?

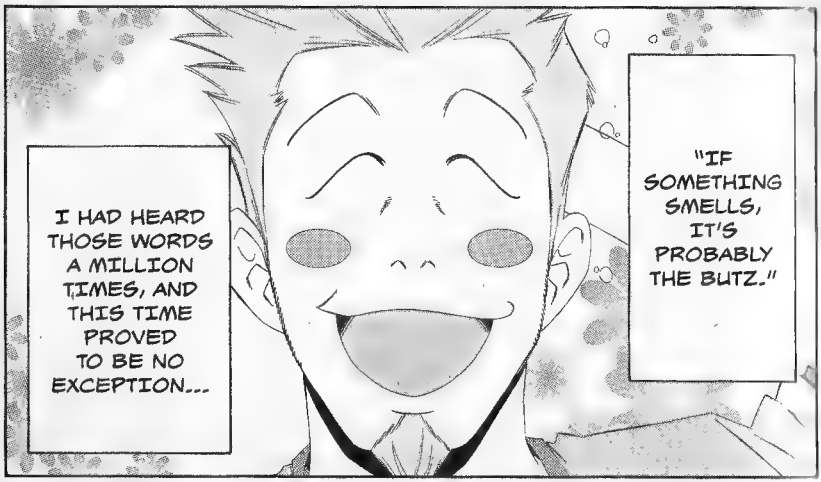
YO, NICK!!
YOU KNOW... IT'S NOT THE PHONE'S FAULT THAT IT'S NOT PICKING UP THE CHIMES.
BUT HE CAN'T BUY A NEW ONE; HE HAS NO MONEY.
OH, I GOT IT! NICK'S PHONE IS BROKEN.
FM
DUDE, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE COMING TO THE FESTIVAL!
GRRRRIN
THIS IS LARRY BUTZ. HE WAS MY FRIEND IN GRADE SCHOOL.
HE'S SUCH A TROUBLEMAKER, HE'S EVEN GOT A SAYING ABOUT HIM: "IF SOMETHING SMELLS, IT'S PROBABLY THE BUTZ." HE'S ALWAYS MAKING MY LIFE MISERABLE.

PHOENIX WRIGHT...
OH! I KNOW YOU!
REALLY? AM I THAT FAMOUS?
BELLE! THIS IS MY OLD FRIEND, PHOENIX WRIGHT.
HE'S NOT MUCH TO LOOK AT, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY A LAWYER.
WELL THANKS FOR THE COMMENTARY!
HELLO♪
I LIVE RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO THE GATEWATER HOTEL.
I'M FRIENDS WITH THE HEAD BELLBOY THERE. HE'S TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU, MR. WRIGHT.
THE GATEWATER HOTEL? THAT'S JUST ACROSS FROM MY OFFICE!
OH, SO YOU GUYS ARE NEIGHBORS.
AND THAT MEANS... SHE'S NOT THAT FAR FROM MY HOUSE, EITHER...
HEY, BELLE! MIND IF I STOP BY YOUR HOUSE LATER?
NO... I DON'T MIND.
REALLY!? THEN MAYBE I'LL GO ALL OUT AND BUY SOME FRUIT AS A GIFT FOR MY BEAUTIFUL HOSTESS!
HEY, LARRY.
WHISPER WHISPER
?

SOB
SOB
JUST LEFT A DEAR JOHN TELLING ME TO FORGET ALL ABOUT HER!
HEIDI! SHE WENT OFF TO STUDY IN FRANCE WITHOUT SAYING A WORD TO ME ABOUT IT!
SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW..!
SOB
GOING OUT WITH THE GIRL YOU MET AT THE SECURITY GUARD PLACE? HEIDI?
WEREN'T YOU...
BAM!
WHEN MY HEART WAS SMASHED IN PIECES, IT WAS BELLY-WELLY HERE WHOSE KIND WORDS LIFTED ME OUT OF THE PIT OF DESPAIR!!
BUT NO NEED TO CONSOLE ME!! I'M AT THE PEAK OF HAPPINESS RIGHT NOW!
BELLE IS THE GODDESS I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR ALL MY LIFE!
♡
LING-A-LING
LOOK AT THIS!!
A LOVING GIFT FROM ME TO HER!! ISN'T IT ADORABLE?
♡
.....

YOU'RE SO SPOONY, LARRY.
.....
AND I'LL TREASURE YOU MY ENTIRE LIFE, BELLE! WA HA! WA HA HA HA!

THANK YOU! I'LL TREASURE IT! ♡


I HAD HEARD THOSE WORDS A MILLION TIMES, AND THIS TIME PROVED TO BE NO EXCEPTION...
"IF SOMETHING SMELLS, IT'S PROBABLY THE BUTZ."

I NEVER...

BAM!!
HUH? BUT I DIDN'T DO NOTHIN'...
I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD END UP DEFENDING HIM...
SAVE ME, NICK!!
AUGUST 13, 10:00 AM
DISTRICT COURT
COURTROOM NO. 2: OPENING STATEMENTS

ZA-ZAM
—FOR THE TRIAL OF LARRY BUTZ.
COURT IS NOW IN SESSION—
THE PROSECUTION IS READY, YOUR HONOR.
DUN
DA-DUN
THE DEFENSE IS READY.
WINSTON PAYNE. A VERY NERVOUS VETERAN PROSECUTOR.

NOW, MR. PAYNE.
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE EVENTS OF THIS CASE?
Y-YES, SIR!
AUGUST 11, 9:25PM, IN X CITY, A MAN'S BODY WAS FOUND IN THE MEN'S SAUNA, BURNIN' HEAVEN.
AN EMPLOYEE FOUND HIM LEANING AGAINST THE COIN LOCKERS.
THE AUTOPSY SHOWS THAT CAUSE OF DEATH WAS LOSS OF BLOOD... A SHARP BLADE STABBED HIM FROM BEHIND IN THE LEFT SIDE. THE INJURY PROVED TO BE FATAL.
INCI-DENTALLY,
THE MURDER WEAPON WAS NOT FOUND AT THE CRIME SCENE.

COMPANY Y DEALS IN FASHION ACCESSORIES.
THE VICTIM WAS BRIGHT BONDS, AGE 41, A BUSINESS MANAGER FOR COMPANY Y.
BOING
BOING
LET ME SEE!
HIS SUIT IS PRETTY WRINKLED FOR A BUSINESS MANAGER. HE LOOKS LIKE A BUM...
.....
THE VICTIM WAS A HUGE GIGANTES FAN. HE WAS MOST LIKELY ON HIS WAY THERE.
THERE WAS A BASEBALL GAME BETWEEN THE GIGANTES AND THE PRIVATEERS AT HOMERUN STADIUM NEAR THE OFFICE.
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
ACCORDING TO HIS EMPLOYEES, THEY WERE ALL WORKING OVERTIME ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER
BUT THE VICTIM LEFT WORK AT 8:55, CLAIMING HE HAD SOME BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO.

ヒュオオオ
WHOOOOSH
HURRICANE LEVEL WINDS BLEW THROUGH THE CITY BETWEEN 8:30 AND 9:30, AND THE GIGANTES–PRIVATEERS GAME WAS DELAYED AN HOUR.
BUT,
THE VICTIM WAS FOUND AT A SAUNA, NOT THE STADIUM.
SO PERHAPS THE VICTIM GAVE UP ON SEEING THE GAME AND WENT TO THE SAUNA INSTEAD.
SAUNA: BURNIN' HEAVEN
AHEM!
コホン
THE DEFENSE WILL KEEP THEIR LOVERS' SPATS OUTSIDE OF THE COURT-ROOM.
Y... YES, YOUR HON-OR...
WELL YOU WERE THE ONE CRYING AND SCREAMING, "I'M SCARED! IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD!"
CRY
CRY
SH-SHUT UP! YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL EVERYONE!
FSHH
FSHH
YEAH, IT WAS REALLY WINDY. AND IT STARTED POURING A LITTLE BEFORE NINE...
WE COULDN'T LEAVE THE OFFICE. I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA STARVE TO DEATH.
YOU'RE EXAGGER-ATING. IT STOPPED AFTER AN HOUR.

WE FOUND A PHONE ON THE VICTIM. OUR INVESTIGATIONS REVEALED A THREATENING MESSAGE IN HIS VOICEMAIL...
BUT WE DO HAVE A CLUE...
MR. PAYNE... WERE THERE ANY WITNESSES TO THIS CRIME?
UNFORTUNATELY, NO ONE HAS COME FORWARD.
CLICK
I'LL PLAY IT FOR YOU NOW.
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
BE A MAN AND GET OUT OF HER LIFE! OR I'LL MAKE YOU PAY!!
HEY, HEY, BRIGHT BONDS! BELLE TOLD ME EVERYTHING!!
CLANG!
THAT'S LARRY'S VOICE...!!

TWO POLICE OFFICERS WENT TO HIS HOME TO ASK HIM SOME QUESTIONS, AND HE RAN.
RARRR!!
WE CHECKED THE NUMBER IN HIS CALL HISTORY AND FOUND THAT THE THREAT CAME FROM LARRY BUTZ.
BUT HE WAS IMMEDIATELY DETAINED AND ARRESTED.
NORTH RIVER
I FIGURED AT LEAST ONE OF US SHOULD GET AWAY...!!
I HAD TO RUN! THAT WAS RIGHT WHEN THEY WERE GONNA CATCH THE CULPRIT IN THE COP SHOW I WAS WATCHING!!
BAM
BAM
BUT I DIDN'T KILL HIM!!
FINE! SO I RAN AWAY! AND I LEFT THAT MESSAGE ON BONDS' PHONE!
SILENCE...
COP SHOW...
DOES THE PROSECUTION HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FOR THE DEFENDANT?
THE ACCUSED WILL REFRAIN FROM SPEAKING OUT OF TURN.

DISTRICT COURT
COURTROOM NO. 2: QUESTIONING THE DEFENDANT
DID YOU KNOW THE VICTIM?
NO... I WOULDN'T SAY I KNEW HIM.
I HEARD ABOUT BONDS FROM BELLE, AND I JUST LOST IT...
AND BELLE IS YOUR CURRENT GIRLFRIEND?
YEAH. SHE'S REAL CUTE. BUT BONDS WAS HER OLD BOYFRIEND, AND HE JUST WOULDN'T LEAVE HER ALONE. SHE HAD NO IDEA WHAT TO DO.
SO SHE TALKED TO ME ABOUT IT.
THREE DAYS BEFORE THE MURDER, LARRY RAN INTO BELLE WINDSOR AT THE RESTAURANT WHERE HE WORKED.
HE SAID SHE WAS EATING DINNER WITH A MIDDLE-AGED MAN IN A SUIT. IT LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING SERIOUS.
CRASH
HUH !?
BELLE !?
THE NEXT DAY, LARRY ASKED BELLE ABOUT WHAT HE SAW AT THE RESTAURANT...

THEN WHY WERE YOU WITH HIM!?
HMPH!
DON'T WORRY. WE JUST WENT ON A FEW DATES A LONG TIME AGO. THERE'S NOTHING BETWEEN US NOW.
OH, COME ON, LARRY! ARE YOU JEALOUS?
HEE HEE! THAT'S SO CUTE!
HE HAS A WIFE AND KIDS! AND HE WAS HIDING THAT FROM ME ALL THAT TIME!
WHO IS HE KIDDING?
HE SAID HE WANTED TO GET BACK TOGETHER...
HE ASKED ME TO SEE HIM. WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?
I CAN'T STAND IT!
BUT HE JUST CAN'T LET IT GO. HE KEEPS COMING AFTER ME...
RAR.
SO I BROKE UP WITH HIM!!
I'M NOT GOING TO BE ANYBODY'S MISTRESS!!

I WANTED TO MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR BELLE... SO I CALLED BONDS.
I GOT HIS NUMBER FROM THE RESTAURANT'S RESERVATION LIST.
ACCORDING TO OUR INVESTIGATION, THE DEFENDANT CALLED THE VICTIM AROUND EIGHT O'CLOCK.
BUT HE DIDN'T ANSWER.
YEAH...
SO I LEFT A MESSAGE.
WHY DIDN'T THE VICTIM ANSWER HIS PHONE?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
MAYBE HE JUST IGNORED IT 'CAUSE HE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE MY NUMBER!
WHEN HE IGNORED YOU, YOU THOUGHT YOU'D GO SEE HIM IN PERSON...
YOU FOUND THE VICTIM'S WHEREABOUTS, AND CONFRONTED HIM FACE TO FACE. EVERYTHING WAS GOING FINE.
UNTIL YOU GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT, AND YOU SNAPPED...
SHINK!
KWAH

Objection!
BAH
THAT IS NOTHING MORE THAN BASELESS CONJECTURE!!
WHIP!

I DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE NEAR THAT PLACE...
'COURSE I DON'T...
8F
7F
6F
SAUNA: BURNIN' HEAVEN
5F
4F
3F
2F
THE SAUNA BURNIN' HEAVEN, WHERE MR. BONDS WAS FOUND, IS ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF ITS BUILDING. THE ONLY WAY TO GET IN IS THROUGH THE LOBBY.
21:16
BY THE WAY, THANKS TO THE SECURITY CAMERA, WE KNOW...
...THAT MR. BONDS ARRIVED AT THE SAUNA AT 9:16 PM.
WE CHECKED THE SECURITY TAPES TAKEN BY THE FRONT ENTRANCE CAMERA, AND LARRY DOESN'T SHOW UP ONCE.
WHAP
NATURALLY HE DOESN'T.
THE DEFENDANT DOESN'T SHOW UP IN THE SECURITY TAPES?
HUH...?
TAP
TAP
TAP
BECAUSE THE VICTIM WASN'T ATTACKED AT THE SAUNA.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THAT PHOTO-GRAPH.
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
AH!
ZHOOM
ZHOOM
DO YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN?
THE VICTIM HAD ALREADY BEEN STABBED.
WE ALSO FOUND TRACES OF THE VICTIM'S BLOOD ON THE ELEVATOR FLOOR.
IT IS CLEAR THAT HE WAS STABBED BEFORE ARRIVING AT BURNIN' HEAVEN.
BAP
WHAT? REALLY!?
GH-GH-GH...
NO ONE TOLD ME ABOUT THAT.

OBJECTION!!
PANT
PANT
PANT
WHAT GOOD WOULD HIDING HIS AFFAIR DO IF IT KILLED HIM!?
HE WAS DESPERATELY TRYING TO HIDE THE FACT THAT HE HAD GOTTEN INTO A FIGHT OVER HIS MISTRESS.
THE VICTIM HAS A FAMILY.
BUT IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY DIDN'T MR. BONDS ASK FOR HELP?
FROM THIS PHOTO, IT LOOKS LIKE HE DIDN'T WANT ANYONE TO KNOW THAT HE HAD BEEN STABBED!!
SWAT
SWAT
WHAT WE NEED TO FOCUS ON NOW IS THAT THE VICTIM WAS STABBED BEFORE HE CAME TO BURNIN' HEAVEN!!
NOW, SEE HERE
WE CAN THINK ABOUT WHY THE VICTIM DIDN'T ASK FOR HELP LATER.
HEY, NICK. IS THERE SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THIS PICTURE?
WEIRD?
ERK...
THEREFORE MR. BUTZ'S CLAIM THAT HE NEVER WENT TO BURNIN' HEAVEN...
...DOES NOT GIVE HIM AN ALIBI!!

LOOK. MR. BONDS ISN'T CARRYING AN UMBRELLA.
IT STARTED POURING BEFORE NINE O'CLOCK, REMEMBER? AND HIS SUIT'S JUST WRINKLED; IT'S NOT WET.
Y... YOU'RE RIGHT!
ARE YOU SAYING THIS PHOTO MAY NOT HAVE BEEN TAKEN ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER!?
...I BELIEVE I TOLD YOU THAT THE GAME AT HOMERUN STADIUM WAS POSTPONED DUE TO STRONG WINDS?
THERE MAY HAVE BEEN HEAVY RAINS WHERE YOU LIVE, BUT THERE WASN'T A DROP IN THE CITY WHERE HE WAS MURDERED.
WE HAVE THE WEATHER REPORT TO PROVE IT.
OH. SO THAT'S WHY. SORRY, NICK.
SIGH...
I'M JUST GETTING STARTED!
SHAKING!
THIS IS WHERE THE REAL BATTLE BEGINS!!
I WILL PROVE THAT LARRY BUTZ IS INNOCENT!
MR. BONDS' FORMER MISTRESS AND LARRY'S CURRENT GIRLFRIEND, BELLE WINDSOR.
PLEASE TAKE THE STAND!

DISTRICT COURT
COURTROOM NO. 2: BELLE WINDSOR'S TESTIMONY
BELLE! I DIDN'T KILL HIM! HELP ME!!
YOU TESTIFIED THAT LARRY BUTZ WAS TALKING TO YOU ON THE PHONE AT THE TIME OF THE MURDER.
IS THAT TRUE?
YES... I CALLED LARRY AT 9:10, ABOUT THE TIME HE COMES HOME FROM WORK.
JUST LIKE I DO EVERY DAY...
ABOUT HOW LONG WERE YOU ON THE PHONE WITH HIM?
I THINK WE TALKED FOR ABOUT AN HOUR.
THANK YOU.

HOMERUN STADIUM
200 m
SAUNA: BURNIN' HEAVEN
HMM...
Y COMPANY
300 m
THE SAUNA BURNIN' HEAVEN, WHERE MR. BONDS' BODY WAS FOUND, IS LOCATED 330 YARDS TO THE NORTH OF GOURD LAKE, WHERE THE WIND CHIME FESTIVAL WAS BEING HELD, AND 220 YARDS EAST OF HOMERUN STADIUM.
GOURD LAKE
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE HOME OF LARRY BUTZ IS MORE THAN 9 MILES AWAY FROM HOMERUN STADIUM, AND THE ROAD IS NARROW AND WINDING. IT TAKES 20 MINUTES TO TRAVEL THE DISTANCE BY CAR, EVEN LONGER BY TRAIN...
15 km
LARRY'S HOUSE
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO RETURN HOME IN ONLY FIFTEEN MINUTES!!
WHAM!
8:55, LEAVES THE OFFICE
?:??, ? ?
9:16, SAUNA: BURNIN' HEAVEN
MR. BONDS WAS ATTACKED SOME TIME BETWEEN 8:55, WHEN HE LEFT HIS OFFICE, AND 9:16, WHEN HE SHOWED UP AT THE SAUNA.
IF HE STABBED MR. BONDS, EVEN IF HE DID IT RIGHT AFTER THE VICTIM LEFT THE OFFICE...
BLUUUUUSH.
AND LARRY WAS ON THE PHONE WITH MS. WINDSOR AT 9:10.

DISTRICT COURT
COURTROOM NO. 2- CROSS-EXAMINATION OF BELLE WINDSOR
IF SHE CALLED HIS CELL PHONE, THEN HE DIDN'T HAVE TO BE AT HOME.
RIDICULOUS. THEN THE DEFENDANT HAS NO ALIBI.
LET HER FINISH, MR. PAYNE!
I HAVE SOME QUES-TIONS FOR THE WIT NESS.
DID YOU CALL THE DEFENDANT'S HOME PHONE AT 9:10?
NO, I CALLED HIS CELL PHONE...
HOW CAN YOU KNOW THAT!?
YES... I'M CERTAIN.
HE WAS MOST DEF-INITELY AT HOME, CORRECT?
MS. WINDSOR, WHEN YOU CALLED LARRY,
V... VIDEO PHONE!?
ZZ\
...TALKED ON VIDEO PHONE...
BECAUSE WE...

SO WE ALWAYS TALK VIA VIDEO PHONE.
LARRY SAID HE WANTED TO SEE MY FACE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE...
AND THIS IS A PHOTO I TOOK OF LARRY'S HOUSE THIS MORNING.
MS. WINDSOR SAVED IMAGES FROM THEIR VIDEO CONVERSATION AND MADE PRINTS.
HERE'S ONE OF THEM.
IF YOU COMPARE THE TWO, YOU'LL SEE THAT THEY ARE BOTH LARRY'S HOUSE.
THAT'S RIGHT, MAN! IT'S JUST LIKE SHE SAYS!
FUME
FUME
IT'S JUST THAT, I HAD ONLY RECENTLY STARTED DATING LARRY, AND I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PICTURES YET...
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
IT'S ALMOST AS IF SHE KNEW BEFOREHAND THAT HER BOYFRIEND WOULD BE SUSPECTED OF MURDER,
AND MADE A POINT OF PRINTING THEM OUT.
WHY WOULD THE WITNESS HAVE THOSE PHOTOS...?

JUST LOOK AT THAT MOUNTAIN OF PRESENTS BEHIND HER! THOSE ARE ALL FROM ME!
AND SHE DISPLAYS ALL OF THEM! AAAHH, I'M THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD! ♡
I USE A PICTURE FROM THAT CONVO FOR MY WALLPAPER!!
ISN'T SHE PRETTY!!?
SQUISH
I HAD A LOT OF FUN TODAY, BELLE!
LOOK, LOOK! LOOK AT THAT, NICK!!
ME, TOO. THANKS FOR THE MELON. ♡
OH! WANNA SEE A VIDEO? A STILL PICTURE JUST ISN'T ENOUGH.
I SAVED A MOVING VERSION OF MY BELLY-WELLY, TOO!
BEEP
BEEP

IF IT'S FRUIT SCULPTURE YOU WANT, I'M YOUR GUY!! I CAN MAKE GIRAFFES, BEARS—YOU NAME IT!
OH♡ SPEAKING OF BEARS...
I'VE NEVER SEEN MELON CUT TO LOOK LIKE A RABBIT BEFORE!
AND THANK YOU FOR CUTTING IT INTO SUCH CUTE SHAPES.
LARRY! ♡
WHAT'D YOU NAME IT!?
WHAT!? YOU NAMED IT AFTER ME!?
I NAMED THE WHISPER BEAR YOU GAVE ME. ♡
PAT
HELLO THERE, LARRY. ♪
I LOVE YOU. I LOVE YOU.
WELL, HE HAS A CUTE LITTLE GOATEE LIKE YOURS. ♡
WOW, YOU CAN HEAR EVEN THE QUIETEST SOUNDS! CELL PHONES ARE SO AMAZING! ♡
YUP! I DID!
DID YOU HEAR IT?

NOW LARRY HAS A SOLID ALIBI!!
GOOD!
HMM.
HMM. INDEED. LOOKING AT THESE PICTURES,
THERE CERTAINLY SEEMS TO BE NO DOUBT THAT THE DEFENDANT WAS AT HOME AT THE TIME OF THE MURDER...
YOU'RE NOT WATCHING MY LUVVY-WUVVY VIDEO!
MUFF
HUH
THE JUDGE AGREES
WATCH IT!
I HAVE JUST ONE MORE QUESTION FOR THE WITNESS.
TAP
APPROXIMATELY FIVE MINUTES BEFORE YOU CALLED THE DEFENDANT...
YOU ACCESSED THE VICTIM'S CELL PHONE AS WELL, CORRECT?
ACK.... WHY DON'T I KNOW ABOUT ANY OF THESE CLUES!?

THE VICTIM'S PHONE HISTORY HAS A RECORD...
YES...
THAT IS TRUE.
OF A PHONE CALL FROM BELLE WINDSOR AT 9:05 PM.
TAP TAP TAP
BAP
WHAT DID YOU DISCUSS WITH THE VICTIM...?
.....
NOTHING.
I ONLY YELLED, "I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN"...
AND THEN I HUNG UP...!!
I WISH SHE HAD TOLD ME THAT BEFORE THE TRIAL...
NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.
GLINT
NOW THE PROSECUTION WOULD LIKE TO CALL A WITNESS.

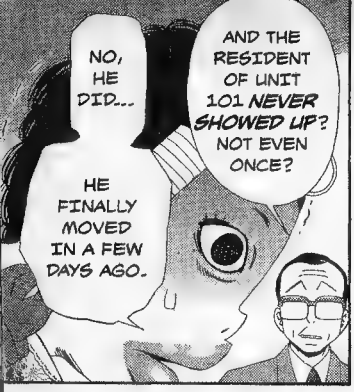
DISTRICT COURT
COURTROOM NO. 2: BIDDY TENNIMAN'S TESTIMONY
ゴエー!
DA-DUN
WHO'S THAT, NICK?
NO IDEA.
MEOW
YOU, THE DESTITUTE-LOOKING YOUNG MAN OVER THERE. YOU SHOULD MOVE IN. IT'S A COMFORTABLE PLACE. IN ITS OWN WAY.♪
HUH? ME?
BIDDY TENNIMAN. I AM THE MANAGER OF THE RUN DOWN INN.
IT MAY LOOK LIKE IT'S FALLING APART, BUT YOU WON'T FIND LOWER RENT ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY.
MEOW
STATE YOUR NAME AND OCCUPATION.
I'LL PASS, THANKS.
RUMOR HAS IT HE'S THE MONSTER THAT LIVES IN GOURD LAKE. COME ON A GOURDY-SEARCH WITH ME! IT'LL BE LOTS OF FUN! ♪
?
IT'S GOURDY!!
BUT! WE'RE A ONE-MINUTE WALK FROM GOURD LAKE, SO IF YOU GET HOT, YOU CAN GO COOL OFF THERE. OH, HAVE YOU HEARD OF GOURDY?
MEOW!
OH, JUST SO YOU KNOW, WE HAVE NO AIR-CONDITIONING.

A SIGH...
...THAT YOU RECENTLY SECURED A NEW TENANT...
I SEE SHE LIKES TO TALK ABOUT NOTHING.
B... BY THE WAY. I UNDERSTAND...

OH, RIGHT. ONE MONTH AGO, SOMEONE CALLED, WANTING TO RENT AN APARTMENT.
YANK
YANK
HE SAID HE WOULD TRANSFER SIX MONTHS RENT INTO MY ACCOUNT RIGHT AWAY, INCLUDING THE DEPOSIT AND KEY MONEY.
SO OF COURSE I WAS MORE THAN HAPPY TO COMPLETE THE CONTRACT ON THE SPOT.

YOU MADE THE CONTRACT OVER THE PHONE?
YES. THEN, THE NEXT DAY, ONCE I CONFIRMED THAT THE AMOUNT WE HAD AGREED ON WAS IN MY BANK ACCOUNT,
I MAILED HIM THE KEY TO UNIT 101, JUST LIKE HE ASKED.
101

BUT YOU KNOW... IT'S STRANGE...
DUN!
WE ONLY TALKED ON THE PHONE ONCE.
AND HE NEVER CAME TO MOVE IN...


NO, HE DID...
AND THE RESIDENT OF UNIT 101 NEVER SHOWED UP? NOT EVEN ONCE?
HE FINALLY MOVED IN A FEW DAYS AGO.

AND YOU DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS SUSPICIOUS?
I DID THINK SOMETHING WAS FISHY... HE ASKED ME TO SEND THE KEY TO A P.O. BOX...
I COULDN'T EVEN TELL IF HE WAS REALLY A MAN OR IF HE WAS ACTUALLY A WOMAN...
AND... YOU KNOW HOW THEY HAVE THOSE VOICE CHANGER THINGS? I THINK HE WAS USING ONE OF THOSE.
HELLO?

THAT'S THE DAY BEFORE THE MURDER!!
AUGUST TENTH...
WHEN WAS THAT?

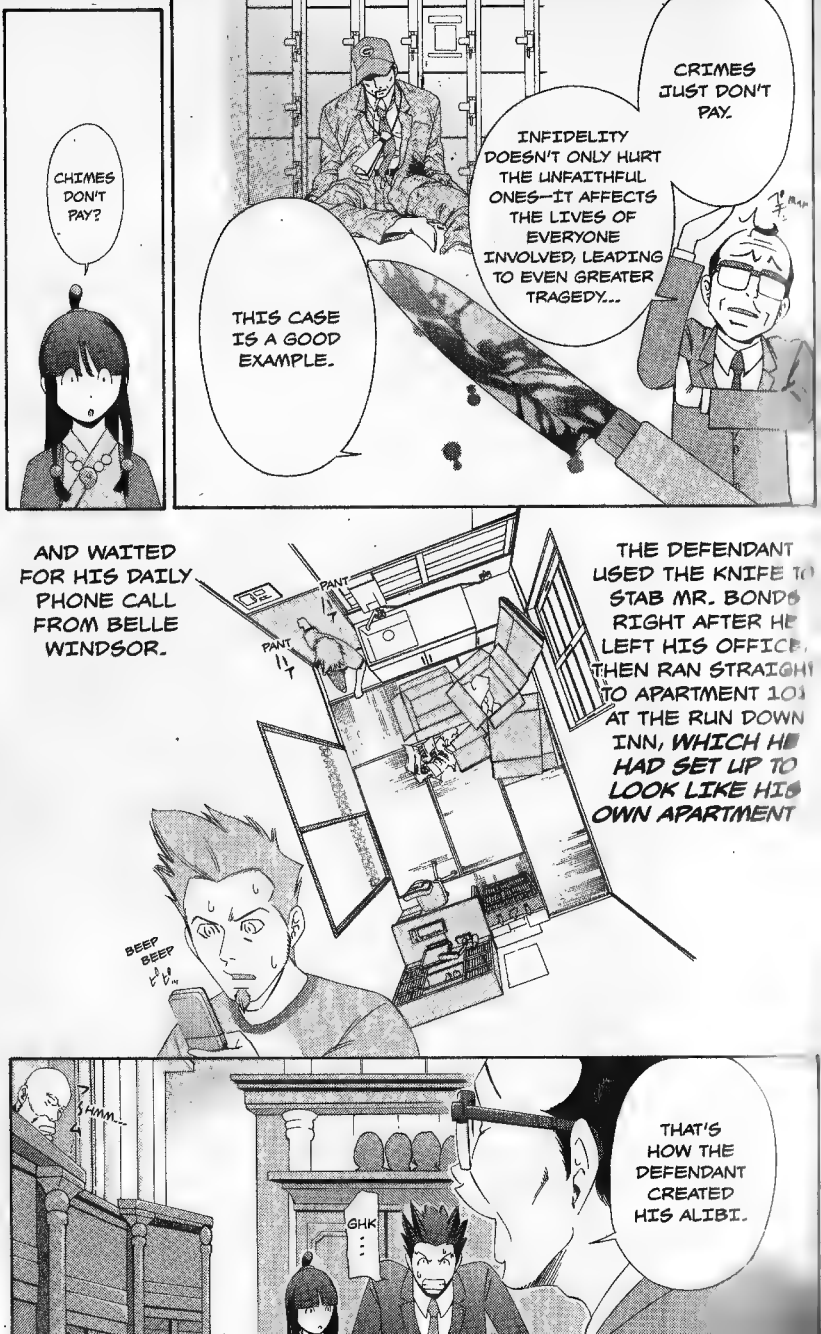
AND THE TENANT APPEARED AFTER THE BOXES ARRIVED?

WELL, THERE WAS NOTHING FOR IT BUT TO TAKE THEM TO THE UNIT, SO I DID... THEY WEREN'T ALL THAT HEAVY, BUT YOU KNOW I'LL BE COLLECTING A HANDLING FEE.
Please take these boxes to apartment 101.
SIX GIANT BOXES ARRIVED FOR NO. 101 ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE TENTH... AND THERE WAS AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ME, WITH A SLOPPILY WRITTEN LETTER INSIDE IT.

I GOT AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL THE MORNING AFTER THERE WAS A MURDER AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD SAUNA.
THE MURDERER LIVES IN APARTMENT 101. INFORM THE POLICE RIGHT AWAY.
...IT SAID.
NOTH-ING. THAT'S IT.
UH-HUH. BUT HE CAME AFTER DARK. I DIDN'T SEE HIS FACE.
I ONLY KNEW HE WAS THERE BECAUSE THE LIGHT WAS ON IN THE ROOM.
AND THEN?
I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT, BUT I CALLED THE POLICE JUST IN CASE, AND WE WENT TO UNIT 101.
WE KEPT KNOCKING, BUT THERE WAS NO ANSWER. I USED MY KEY TO GET IN, AND...
WHAM
WHAM
THE ROOM WAS COMPLETELY EMPTY!
BOY, WAS I SURPRISED!
RATTLE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR VERY CLEAR TESTIMONY.
YES, HMM... THE POLICE SEARCHED THE ROOM AND DISCOVERED A BLOOD-STAINED FRUIT KNIFE IN THE CLOSET.
WHAT...?

AND THE KNIFE HAS DEFINITIVE PROOF THAT THE DEFENDANT IS THE MURDERER...
FORENSICS FOUND THAT THE BLOOD ON THE KNIFE IS THE VICTIM'S... THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS WAS THE MURDER WEAPON.
WHAAAAAT !!!?
HIS FINGER-PRINTS WERE ON THE KNIFE!!
BAAAM!
アアアア

KWAH!
I-I-I HAVE NO IDEA!!
YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME, NICK!!
LARRY! WHY ARE YOUR FINGERPRINTS ON THE MURDER WEAPON!?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA!?
EH...? UH...??
FROM THE WITNESS'S TESTIMONY, I WOULD GUESS THAT...
ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER, THE DEFENDANT CALLED COMPANY Y...
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU. TONIGHT.
...HE SUGGESTED TO MR. BONDS. ...NO, MAYBE HE DIDN'T WANT TO TALK AT ALL. MAYBE HE WANTED TO KILL HIM ALL ALONG...


CHIMES DON'T PAY?
CRIMES JUST DON'T PAY.
INFIDELITY DOESN'T ONLY HURT THE UNFAITHFUL ONES—IT AFFECTS THE LIVES OF EVERYONE INVOLVED, LEADING TO EVEN GREATER TRAGEDY...
THIS CASE IS A GOOD EXAMPLE.
AND WAITED FOR HIS DAILY PHONE CALL FROM BELLE WINDSOR.
PANT
PANT
THE DEFENDANT USED THE KNIFE TO STAB MR. BOND RIGHT AFTER HE LEFT HIS OFFICE, THEN RAN STRAIGHT TO APARTMENT 10 AT THE RUN DOWN INN, WHICH HE HAD SET UP TO LOOK LIKE HIS OWN APARTMENT
BEEP BEEP
HMM...
GHK...
THAT'S HOW THE DEFENDANT CREATED HIS ALIBI.

I CAN'T LET IT END LIKE THIS...
IF THEY FOUND THE MURDER WEAPON WITH HIS FINGERPRINTS ON IT,
I HAVE TO TURN IT AROUND... I HAVE TO CHANGE MY PERSPECTIVE!!
WE HAVE NO CHANCE OF WINNING THIS.
IF I CAN'T PROVE THAT LARRY WAS AT HIS HOME...
SLINT
I THINK THIS CASE IS CLOSED.
HEY, NICK.

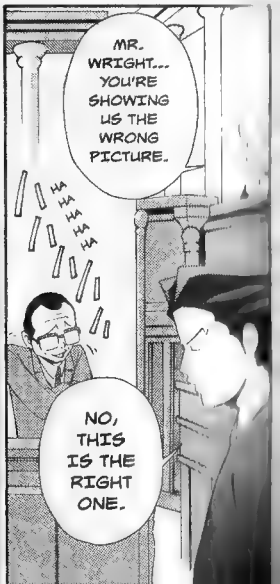
WAIT... WIND CHIMES?
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
DID MR. BONDS HAVE A WIND CHIME WITH AN EVIL SPIRIT IN IT?
CRACKLE CRACKLE
BAM BAM
SLUMP
NOW, LOOK. MR. PAYNE WAS TALKING ABOUT LOVE AFFAIRS, NOT WIND CHIMES...
SHEESH, AT A CRITICAL TIME LIKE THIS...
WELL, HE SAID CHIMES DON'T JUST HURT THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THEM.
THEY AFFECT THE LIVES OF EVERYONE AND LEAD TO GREATER TRAGEDY...
DUN
TH... THERE'S A CHANCE...!!
!!
IF YOU WOULD DELIVER THE GUILTY VERDICT...
I THINK WE CAN ASSUME HE HAS ABANDONED HIS DEFENSE OF THE ACCUSED.
MR. WRIGHT HAS BEEN SILENT FOR SOME TIME.
YOUR HONOR.
BAP
BAP

Objection!
I FINALLY GOT IT!!
THAT'S IT!

DISTRICT COURT

COURTROOM NO. 2: VERDICT

THIS IS AN IMAGE OF MS. WINDSOR'S ROOM. IT WAS TAKEN AT 9:25 ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER.
IF IT WAS REALLY TAKEN IN HER APARTMENT, THEN DON'T YOU THINK THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THIS SHOT?



WHAT IS THAT?
THIS IS THE KIND OF CARD YOU SEE ON WIND CHIMES!
GRRR!
ムキー!!
WHAT'S SO WEIRD ABOUT THAT!!?
THAT'S THE LUVVY-WUVVY WIND CHIME I BOUGHT HER!!
IF IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IN THE PICTURE, WE CAN ASSUME—
—THAT SOMETHING WAS CAUSING THE CHIME TO SWING VERY HIGH.
YES, THAT IS CORRECT... BUT PLEASE REMEMBER!
AT 9:25 ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER,
FSHH
FSHH
FSHH
THE WIND IN MS. WINDSOR'S NEIGHBOR-HOOD WAS ACCOMPA-NIED BY POURING RAIN.
AND WHAT IS YOUR POINT? IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR A WIND CHIME TO SWING IN THE WIND.
ESPECIALLY ON A *BLUSTERY* DAY LIKE THAT ONE.

I TOLD YOU BEFORE!! THE DOWNPOUR THAT DAY WAS LOCAL!
IT MAY HAVE BEEN RAINING BY YOUR OFFICE, BUT IN HER AREA...
IT WAS POURING.
SHE LIVES JUST A STONE'S THROW AWAY FROM WRIGHT & CO. LAW OFFICES!!
MS. WINDSOR'S HOME
WRIGHT
GATEWATER HOTEL
FSHH
FSHH
FSHH
WHA...!?
JUDGING FROM THE ANGLE OF THE CHIME, THE DRIVING RAIN SHOULD HAVE BEEN BLOWING STRAIGHT INTO THE ROOM.
FWOOOSH
A-LING
A-LING
RATTLE
RATTLE
AND YET SHE LEAVES THE WINDOW OPEN AND HAS A NICE LITTLE CHAT ON THE PHONE. DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S UNNATURAL?
IS THAT TRUE?
...YES.

...I HUNG THE CHIME BY THE WINDOW...
WIND FROM THE AIR-CONDITIONER WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN TO IT.
WE ONLY HAVE TO INVESTIGATE YOUR APARTMENT TO KNOW FOR SURE...
WAS IT, MS. WINDSOR?
B-B-B... BUT...
MAYBE THE WIND WAS COMING FROM THE AIR CONDITIONER...
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
THEN WHERE WAS SHE...!?
THEREFORE, THE WIND CHIME WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MOVING. IN OTHER WORDS, SHE WAS NOT AT HOME.
IF SHE WAS AT HOME AT 9:25, THEN HER WINDOW WOULD HAVE BEEN CLOSED.
I HAVE TO SAVE LARRY!
...SHE'S A WITNESS FOR OUR SIDE. I HATE TO ACCUSE HER LIKE THIS, BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE.
MS. WINDSOR.
YOU...

...WERE IN APARTMENT 101 AT THE RUN DOWN INN!!
WHIP
SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN DRIPPING WITH SWEAT.
BUT THE APARTMENT HAS NO AIR-CONDITIONING. SHE HAD TO OPEN THE WINDOW...
HEEE
HEEE
THEN SHE CALLED LARRY...
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
TO CREATE HER ALIBI!!
TH... THAT MEANS...?
AS THE PROSECUTION HAS POINTED OUT, THERE WAS NO RAIN IN TOWN X ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER.
THERE WOULD BE NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT YOU HAVING YOUR WINDOW OPEN.
IN FACT, WE WOULD EXPECT HER TO HAVE HER WINDOW OPEN.
BECAUSE SHE WOULD HAVE JUST RUN AT FULL SPEED TO THE APARTMENT.
PANT
PANT
PANT

MS. WINDSOR. YOU WERE THE ONE—
—WHO KILLED MR. BONDS.
YOU FOUND OUT THAT MR. BONDS HAD A FAMILY AND DEVISED A PLAN TO KILL HIM.
THAT WAS WHEN YOU CALLED THE RUN DOWN INN ONE MONTH AGO.
THEN YOU APPROACHED LARRY, BECAUSE HE LOOKED LIKE AN EASY TARGET...
J-J-J... JUST A MIN-UTE!! AREN'T YOU FORGETTING SOMETHING? THE WEAPON HAD HIS FINGERP-RINTS!?
TH-TH-TH... THE DEFENDANT'S FINGER-PRINTS WERE ON THE BLOODY KNIFE!

RIDICULOUS!! SHE COULDN'T HAVE HAD A KNIFE READY WITH THE DEFENDANT'S FINGERPRINTS. THAT'S TOO CONVENIENT.
DID YOU FORGET? IT'S RECORDED HERE IN THE VIDEO LARRY SHOWED US EARLIER.
HE HAD CUT A MELON AT MS. WINDSOR'S HOUSE ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER.
IF IT'S FRUIT SCULPTURE YOU WANT, I'M YOUR GUY!!
AND THANK YOU FOR CUTTING IT INTO SUCH CUTE SHAPES.
TAKE A CLOSER LOOK. THERE'S NO BLOOD ON THE HANDLE.
MOST LIKELY, SHE TRADED THE HANDLE WITH ONE FROM A DIFFERENT KNIFE. ONE THAT HAD LARRY'S FINGERPRINTS.
IT'S A CHEAP KNIFE. IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HARD TO TAKE IT APART.
MMGHKHGHAK!
CRACK
CRACK

MS. WINDSOR...
AND WHEN SHE FOUND OUT THAT THE POLICE HAD TAKEN LARRY IN, SHE SWITCHED THE HANDLE AND HID IT IN APARTMENT 101, TO PLACE THE BLAME ON HIM.
MS. WINDSOR MUST HAVE HAD TWO KNIVES. SHE USED ONE AS THE MURDER WEAPON.
WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT, SHE WAS MOST LIKELY THE ONE WHO TIPPED OFF THE MANAGER TO MAKE SURE THEY FOUND THE DECISIVE EVIDENCE.
ガビーン
SHOCK!
THE MURDERER LIVES IN APARTMENT 101.
AND THEN YOU STABBED HIM.
MR. BONDS CAME TO SEE YOU, JUST AS YOU ASKED.
YOU MADE A PHONE CALL ON AUGUST 11TH TO MR. BONDS' OFFICE, SAYING YOU WANTED TO TALK FACE TO FACE, DIDN'T YOU?

MUSCLES!
HA HA HA
HOW COULD SOMEONE MY SIZE HAVE KILLED HIM!!?
BRIGHT PLAYED FOOTBALL IN HIGH SCHOOL. HE'S GIGANTIC!
YOU'RE MAKING THAT UP!
WINCE!
WHAT...?
THAT'S WHY YOU MADE THE PHONE CALL TO MR. BONDS AT 9:05, RIGHT BEFORE YOU STABBED HIM.
MR. BONDS' SUIT WAS WRINKLED, MOST LIKELY BECAUSE HE WAS IN A CROWD.
THAT'S RIGHT... YOU CALLED HIM OUT INTO A CROWD AND SNUCK UP ON HIM FROM BEHIND. WITH SO MANY PEOPLE AROUND, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM NOTICING YOU.

...YOU STABBED HIM.
WHEN YOU GOT CLOSE, YOU CALLED MR. BONDS TO DISTRACT HIM. AND AT THE SAME TIME...
YOU'RE LYING! YOU MADE IT ALL UP!!
HE WAS AT GOURD LAKE! THERE WERE POLICEMAN EVERYWHERE FOR THE FESTIVAL!!
IF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS TRUE, THEN WHY DIDN'T BRIGHT ASK THE POLICE FOR HELP!?
WHAT?
...YOU JUST CONFESSED, MS. WINDSOR.

WE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE MR. BONDS WAS STABBED, BUT YOU JUST TOLD US.
YOU SAID "HE WAS AT GOURD LAKE."
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW THAT?
THERE WAS A GIGANTES-PRIVATEERS GAME THAT DAY. I HEAR IT WAS PACKED.
SURELY YOU KNOW THAT MR. BONDS WAS A BIG GIGANTES FAN, TOO. SO I THINK YOU WOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THE BASEBALL STADIUM FIRST...
UM... W... WELL...
THE FESTIVAL AT GOURD LAKE IS THE ONLY PLACE IN THAT AREA WHERE THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A CROWD...
NO, HOMERUN STADIUM IS RIGHT THERE, TOO.
I HEARD SOMETHING FAINTLY IN THE BACKGROUND.
I CALLED HIM ON THE PHONE AFTER NINE, REMEMBER? I ONLY SHOUTED AND HUNG UP, BUT...
OH... SORRY FOR THE MISTAKE. I JUST REMEMBERED HOW I KNEW THAT HE WAS AT GOURD LAKE

—SWINGING IN THE WIND.
チリ～ン
A-LING
チリ～ン
A-LING
IT WAS THE SOUND OF CHIMES—
SNAP
I HATE TO TELL YOU, BUT YOUR TESTIMONY—
—HAS A CONTRA-DICTION!!
SNAP

LOOK AT THIS VIDEO THAT LARRY TOOK.
YOUR WIND CHIME IS SWINGING ALL OVER THE PLACE IN THE LEFT EDGE OF THE SCREEN.
BUT FOR ALL THAT SWINGING, YOU CAN'T HEAR IT AT ALL.
EVEN THOUGH WE CAN HEAR THE WHISPER BEAR'S VOICE, WHICH I'D THINK WOULD BE HARDER TO MAKE OUT!!
I LOVE YOU
I LOVE YOU
IN OTHER WORDS!
BAM!
!?

A TELE-PHONE...
...DOESN'T PICK UP EVERY SOUND AROUND IT!!
A PHONE PICKS UP SOUNDWAVES BETWEEN 300 AND 3400 HERTZ.
THAT RANGE IS MORE THAN WIDE ENOUGH FOR NORMAL CONVERSATION.
BUT THE SOUNDWAVE FREQUENCY FROM A GLASS WIND CHIME IS HIGHER THAN THAT!!
BAM!

SO YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE HEARD THE WIND CHIMES OVER THE PHONE!!
WHAT? YOU CAN'T HEAR IT?
THAT'S WEIRD. IS YOUR PHONE BROKEN?
A-LING
SO YOU WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN IT WAS THE SOUND OF A WIND CHIME!!
EVEN IF YOU COULD HEAR SOMETHING, THE FREQUENCY WOULD HAVE BEEN LESS THAN 3400 HERTZ,

WHEN YOU CALLED HIM AT 9:05,
MR. BONDS WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU!!
THAT'S HOW YOU KNEW HE WAS AT GOURD LAKE!!

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY...?
A-LING...
.....
LARRY HAD ONLY JUST BOUGHT ME THAT WIND CHIME...
SO I THOUGHT IT WOULD LOOK MORE BELIEVABLE IF IT WAS SWINGING BEHIND ME WHILE WE TALKED.
BUT I SEE MY PLAN BACKFIRED...
SO YOU CONFESS?

YES.
I KILLED HIM!!
I TOLD LARRY THAT I BROKE UP WITH HIM AND HE WOULDN'T LEAVE ME ALONE.
BUT IT WAS ALL A LIE! IT WAS REALLY THE OTHER WAY AROUND!!
SHOCK!
AND AT THE RESTAURANT, I WAS BEGGING HIM TO COME BACK. I TOLD HIM I DON'T CARE IF HE HAS A FAMILY.
BUT HE JUST KEPT HANGING HIS HEAD! HE SAID IT WAS GOODBYE!! THAT'S WHEN I FINALLY REALIZED THAT I WAS JUST A GAME TO HIM!
I COULDN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT...
OF HIM BEING HAPPY WHILE I WAS MISERABLE!!
THAT'S WHY... THAT'S WHY I...!!

HEH HEH... I KNEW THAT IF I KILLED HIM, I WOULD BE THE FIRST PERSON EVERYONE SUSPECTED.
SO I FOUND A PATSY WHO COULD TESTIFY TO PROVE MY ALIBI.
I NEVER IMAGINED *HE* WOULD BE ARRESTED AS THE SUSPECT.
AND THAT I WOULD HAVE TO PROVE *HIS* ALIBI...
NOTHING WENT THE WAY I HAD PLANNED; I'VE BEEN SCARED TO DEATH THIS WHOLE TIME.
.....
I'M SURE YOU WOULD HAVE EXPOSED ALL MY LIES ANYWAY.
BUT EVEN IF IT HAD GONE ACCORDING TO PLAN,
BUT YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT ONE THING, MR. ATTORNEY.
YOU GUESSED THAT I CALLED MR. BONDS TO DISTRACT HIM, BUT I DIDN'T.
IN A CROWD LIKE THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE NEEDED A DIVERSION TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO STAB HIM.
THEN... WHY DID YOU CALL HIM...?

I'M THE ONE WHO STABBED YOU!
I DIDN'T WANT THAT!
BECAUSE... IF I STABBED HIM IN A CROWD, THEN HE WOULD HAVE DIED WITHOUT KNOWING WHO KILLED HIM.
I STABBED HIM!
THAT'S HOW MUCH I HATED HIM!!
I WANTED TO MAKE SURE HE KNEW THAT.
SO RIGHT AFTER I STABBED HIM, I TOLD HIM...

I PRO-
NOUNCE...
THE
DEFENDANT,
LARRY BUTZ...

NOT GUILTY
THIS COURT—
—IS AD-JOURNED.
AUGUST 13, 1:25 PM
WRIGHT & CO. LAW OFFICES
I'LL NEVER BELIEVE IT!!
I REFUSE TO BELIEVE IT!

NOT THAT WE'RE SURPRISED...
POOR LARRY...
MY BELLY-WELLY? A MURDERER!!?
AND SHE ONLY TALKED TO ME SO I COULD BE HER ALIBI!!?
WOOOOOOE

I KNOW THE CASE HAS BEEN SOLVED, BUT THERE'S STILL SOMETHING I DON'T GET.
HEY... NICK.

AFTER BELLE STABBED HIM, WHY DIDN'T MR. BONDS ASK FOR HELP? WHY DID HE GO TO THE SAUNA?
.....
GOOD QUESTION... MY GUESS WOULD BE THAT...
MR. BONDS USED THE LAST OF HIS STRENGTH TO GO TO THE SAUNA SO THAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE—
—HE WAS STABBED *THERE*, AND NOT AT THE PARK.
PANT
PANT PANT
BUT WHY?

MAYBE, DESPITE EVERYTHING HE SAID, HE REALLY DID CARE FOR HER...
IN OTHER WORDS, MS. WINDSOR WOULD BE TAKEN OFF THE LIST OF SUSPECTS.
BURNIN' HEAVEN IS A MEN'S ONLY SAUNA. NO WOMEN ALLOWED.

A-LING
A-LING

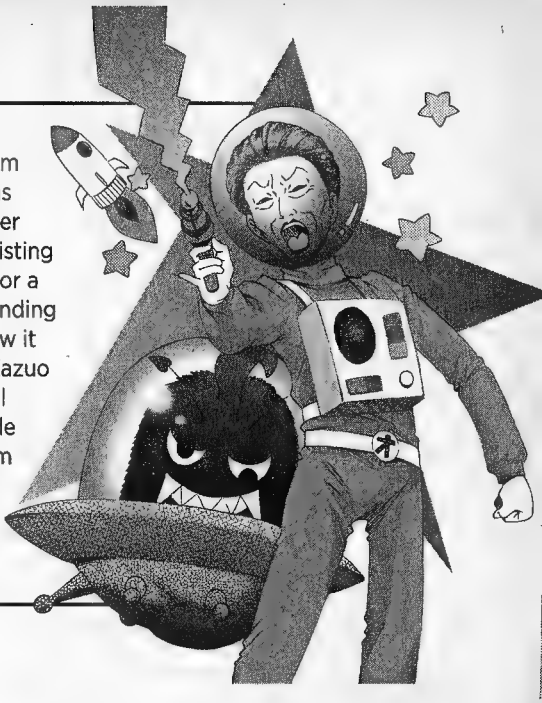
EVEN AFTER SHE STABBED HIM ...?
HE STILL WANTED TO PROTECT HER...

A-LING
LOVE CAN BE LIKE THAT.

Phoenix Wright
Ace Attorney

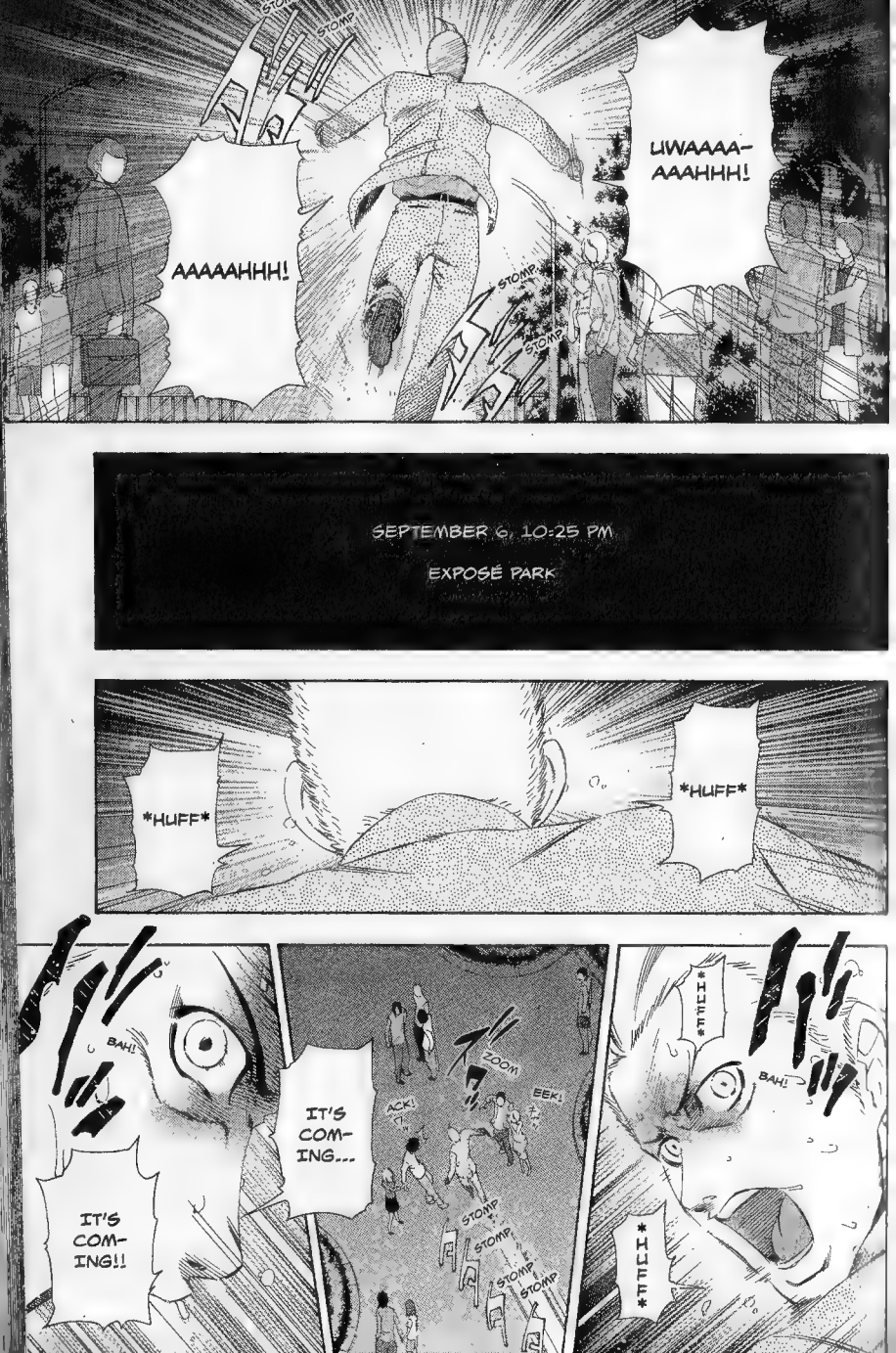
SCRIPT: KENJI KURODA

Pleased to meet you, everyone. I'm Kuroda, a mystery writer. This was a new experience for me—I'd never written an original story using existing characters, or written the script for a manga before. My heart was pounding the whole time—I had no idea how it was going to work out. But Ms. Kazuo Maekawa draws such a wonderful world, and I think that we've made something pretty entertaining. I'm very satisfied with how it turned out. Please continue to support this Ace Attorney series forever, along with all of the games.



MANGA: KAZUO MAEKAWA

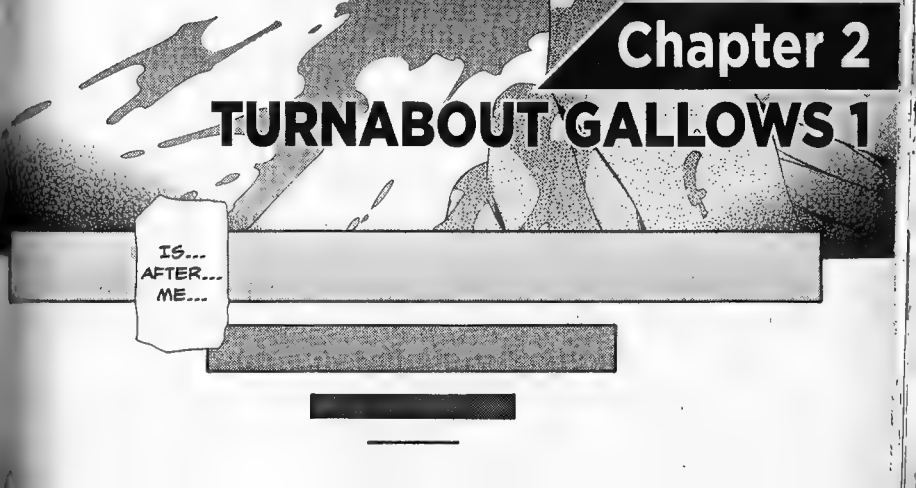
After I beat Ace Attorney (the game), the story and characters were so interesting, I thought, "I wanna make this a manga!!" A few years after that, I really did get put in charge of the art for the manga version!! Wishes really do come true! I'm so happy!! My favorite character from the game is Ema Skye, from "Rise from the Ashes." If I wish reeeeally hard, maybe I can put her in the manga, too? (But the way I'd draw her, she'd upstage Phoenix!)


STOMP
STOMP
AAAAAHHH!
UWAAAA-
AAAHHH!
STOMP
STOMP
SEPTEMBER 6, 10:25 PM
EXPOSÉ PARK
HUFF
HUFF
BAH!
IT'S COM-ING!!
IT'S COM-ING...
ZOOM
ACK!
EEK!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
HUFF
HUFF
BAH!

SOME-
BODY...
SOME-
BODY
HELP
ME...
HELP.
HELP.
HELP.
HELP.
HELP.

ZHMMM!
THE SPIDER!
THE SPIDER'S COMING!!
SKID
STOP! PLEASE! DON'T KILL ME...!
PLEASE...!!
I'M BEGGING YOU...
!!
TOTTER
SKID

Chapter 2
TURNABOUT GALLOWS 1



SEPTEMBER 20, 6:10 PM
WOLFE MANOR: FRONT YARD
IT'S A GIANT MANSION, NICK!
WOW, THIS IS INCREDIBLE!

THIS IS ALL SPARKLY!
DO YOU THINK IT'S MADE OF GOLD?
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF THE WHOLE MANSION IS MADE OF GOLD.
THIS IS THE HOME OF THE PRESIDENT OF CYBER PROJECT, THE BIGGEST PLAYER IN THE IT INDUSTRY.

SO WE CAN EXPECT A NICE DINNER, THEN.
I'M GLAD I CAME HUNGRY! ♪
GRUMBLE
DO YOU HAVE TO BE SUCH A GLUTTON...?
BUT—
—YOU WON'T EVEN TAKE ME OUT FOR NOODLES ANYMORE!
JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE "BUSY"!
JUMBO-SIZED MISO RAMEN
COMPLETE WITH 20 PORK FILLETS!
WHIMPER WHIMPER
AND LAST NIGHT ALL WE HAD WAS SEASONED RICE!
I THOUGHT YOU LIKED THAT STUFF.
WELL, I DON'T HATE IT...
BUT RICE WITH FISH FLAKES JUST DOESN'T FILL ME UP.
SO TODAY, I'LL HAVE A NICE, THICK STEAK; A GIANT ROAST PIG; JUMBO-SIZED MISO RAMEN; AND A FANCY RESTAURANT-STYLE BURGER!
I'LL EAT AND EAT AND EAT UNTIL I CAN'T EAT ANYMORE!
RUSTLE
EEK !!
HOP
RUSTLE

.....
W-W-W-W-WAH!

...I'M SORRY... FOR SCARING YOU...
...BUT CH... CHARLOTTE... RAN AWAY...
?
CHAR-LOTTE?
NO... NEVER MIND...
WHAT'S UP WITH HIM?
DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU! ANYWAY, FREE FOOD!
FREE FOOD ♪ FREE FOOD ♪
MAYA ...
WOW, LOOK AT THAT! THE DOOR'S ALL SPARKLY, TOO!
DO YOU THINK THOSE ARE REAL JEWELS?

CRRREAK
EEP!
PHOENIX WRIGHT, I PRESUME. I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.
PLEASE, COME INSIDE.
ROBIN WOLFE (41)
PRESIDENT OF CYBER PROJECT
WHISPER
HIS HEAD'S ALL SPARKLY, TOO.
SHH! HE CAN HEAR YOU!

HEY, WE HAVE GUESTS.
BRING SOME COFFEE TO THE PARLOR.
BEEEEP
TH-THANK YOU...
GLANCE GLANCE
BOW
PLEASE, MAKE YOUR-SELVES AT HOME.
I'LL GET YOU SOME DRINKS.
PARDON ME, BUT WOULD YOU WAIT HERE A MOMENT?
YES, SIR.
HONESTLY... WHAT IS MY WIFE UP TO?

I'M PHOENIX WRIGHT, A DEFENSE ATTORNEY.
I'VE GOTTEN PRETTY FAMOUS RECENTLY, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF.
THE PRESIDENT OF CYBER PROJECT INVITED ME TO HIS MANSION TODAY, SO I'M HERE WITH MY ASSISTANT MAYA, BUT...
I'M SURE MAYA'S JUST AS NERVOUS AS I AM...
IT'S MAKING ME VERY NERVOUS.
ALL THE EXPENSIVE FURNITURE EVERYWHERE I LOOK...
FIDGET
FIDGET

WOW, NICK! LOOK AT ALL THE DEER HEADS!
HEY, WE SHOULD GET ONE FOR THE OFFICE!
HUH?
...OR NOT AT ALL.
OH! ...SKETCH-BOOKS?
STOP TOUCHING EVERY-THING!
FWUMP
SKETCHBOOK
CLUNK CLUNK
CLATTER
CLATTER
OK
HE HAS SO MANY, HE WON'T MIND IF WE TAKE JUST ONE...
H-HEY, STOP THAT!
YES, I DID.
I-I'M SORRY FOR PRY-ING.
CLINK
OH, NO, I DON'T MIND.
HMMM...
I COULDN'T EVEN FAKE A COMPLIMENT FOR THESE!
DO YOU THINK MR. WOLFE DREW THEM?
RW

DRAWING CALMS MY MIND.
I ALWAYS CARRY A SKETCHBOOK WITH ME, SO I CAN DRAW IN MY SPARE TIME.
IT'S BEEN A HOBBY OF MINE SINCE CHILD-HOOD.
I LIKE PICTURES.
SO YOU'RE AN ARTIST, MR. WOLFE?
I READ IT IN AN INTER-VIEW!
IT ACTIVATES YOUR BRAIN AND GIVES YOU A LOT OF ORIGINAL IDEAS.
RIGHT, YOU ALWAYS SKETCH WHAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU WHEN YOU GET STUCK ON A PROJECT.
THIS CALICO CAT IS ADORABLE. ♪
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
YES, I'M VERY PROUD OF THAT ONE. IT'S SOME OF MY BEST WORK.
RW
YES... IT'S THANKS TO MY SKETCHES THAT CYBER PROJECT HAS GROWN TO WHAT IT IS TODAY.
BUT I JUST DO IT FOR LUCK.
THEY'RE ONLY CRUMMY SCRIBBLES, AFTER ALL.

THAT'S A SELF-PORTRAIT...
THIS OCTOPUS IS CUTE, TOO! ♪
YEAH, IT'S VERY COMICAL! WITH EYEBROWS AND EVERYTHING.
OH, UH...
ANYWAY, WHY DID YOU INVITE US HERE?
OH, I'M NOT THAT GREAT...
I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE VERY ACTIVE IN THE LEGAL WORLD.
YOUR REPUTATION IS QUITE WIDESPREAD, MR. WRIGHT.
SO I WAS HOPING—
—I COULD ASK YOU TO DEFEND ME.
DEFEND YOU, SIR...?

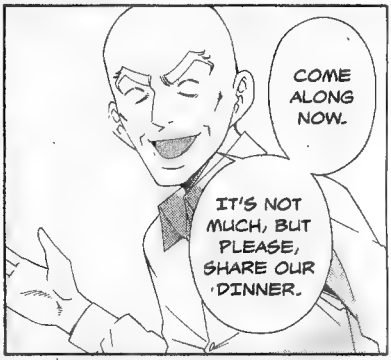
IT SHAMES ME TO TELL YOU THIS,
BUT I MAY BE ARRESTED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS!!
DO YOU REMEMBER THAT TWO WEEKS AGO, A YOUNG MAN DIED AFTER FALLING OFF THE STONE WALL AT EXPOSÉ PARK?
YES. I HEARD HE KILLED HIMSELF BECAUSE OF SOME TROUBLE AT WORK...
ARRESTED ...?
WHY!?

HE WAS A NEW EMPLOYEE OF MINE. HE JOINED MY COMPANY IN THE SPRING OF LAST YEAR.
THE MAN WHO DIED IS EDDIE JOHNSON.
HE OFTEN BOASTED OF HIS TALENT AND TALKED DOWN TO HIS SUPERIORS.
HE HAD A SHARP MIND AND WAS A REAL GO-GETTER.
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, HE HAD A BIT OF AN EGO...
HE WORKED FOR CYBER PROJECT?
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
WAAAH! NICK'S MAD AT ME!
SHH! KEEP QUIET, MAYA!
NO ONE YOU WOULD KNOW...
EDGE-WORTH?
JUST LIKE MR. EDGE-WORTH, WHEN WE FIRST MET HIM.

THE GENIUS PROSECUTOR MILES EDGEWORTH.
MY BEST FRIEND AND GREATEST RIVAL...
BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM IN A WHILE...
JOHNSON WAS TOO SELF-ABSORBED. HE WASN'T A TEAM PLAYER.
THE OTHER EMPLOYEES COMPLAINED ABOUT HIM FREQUENTLY.
BUT HE COMMANDED A LOT OF FEAR. HE HAD BEEN IN A NATIONAL JUDO TOURNAMENT IN COLLEGE. NO ONE COULD CRITICIZE HIM TO HIS FACE.
I DECIDED SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE, AND I INVITED HIM TO MY HOME.
I WANTED TO HAVE A NICE, LONG TALK, JUST THE TWO OF US.

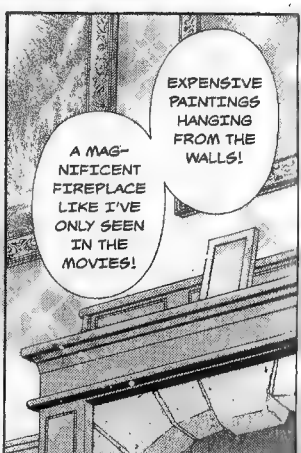
WHAT!?
SO THE LAST PERSON TO MEET WITH MR. JOHNSON ALIVE...
WAS ME.
BUT JOHNSON—
—KILLED HIMSELF ON THE WAY HOME FROM MY HOUSE.
BUT EVERYONE WHO WITNESSED JOHNSON BEFORE HE DIED TESTIFIED THAT HE WAS TERRIFIED.
JOHNSON WAS TOO SURE OF HIMSELF TO COMMIT SUICIDE.
AFTER THAT, A LETTER INDICTING ME AS JOHNSON'S KILLER REACHED THE POLICE, AND THEY'VE TAKEN ME IN FOR QUESTIONING MORE TIMES THAN I CARE TO REMEMBER.

I GAVE JOHNSON A MENTAL SHOCK STRONG ENOUGH TO DRIVE HIM TO DEATH.
THAT'S WHAT THE POLICE THINK.
カチャ
KACHAK
BUT YOU DON'T REMEMBER DOING ANY SUCH THING?
OF COURSE I DON'T.
THANK YOU. WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE.
THERIDIA, THIS IS THE LAWYER, MR. PHOENIX WRIGHT.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU...
THERIDIA WOLFE (39) PRESIDENT WOLFE'S WIFE
DEAR...
DINNER IS READY.
OH, I SEE.



SEPTEMBER 20, 6:37 PM

DINING HALL, ENTRANCE, PARLOR



FLAKE
FLAKE
FLAKE
FLAKE
I... DON'T KNOW...
...BUT WHY...
ARE THEY SERVING RICE WITH FISH FLAKES?
MUNCH
MUNCH
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

WE SAW A MAN IN THE GARDEN...
UM... IS THIS EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY...?
WE'RE A VERY HEALTH-CONSCIOUS FAMILY, SO WE ALWAYS EAT CAT RICE FOR SUPPER.
WE USE BARLEY RICE. ISN'T IT DELICIOUS?
CAT RICE, YOU SAY...?
THEN HE WAS PROBABLY A SERVANT.
OH.
HUH? BUT I WAS SURE...
I KNOW NO SUCH PERSON.
LIRA WOLFE (19) PRESIDENT WOLFE'S ONLY DAUGHTER
CALLING YOUR OWN BROTHER A SERVANT. HOW LOW CAN YOU GET?
WE DON'T HAVE ANY SERVANTS.

OH, I'M SORRY! THAT'S RIGHT, WE HAVE TO HIDE THE FACT THAT I HAVE AN UNCLE!
YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT. IF SOMETHING STINKS, YOU JUST PUT A LID ON IT.
BROTHER?
LIRA! DON'T SPEAK OUT OF TURN!
HE'S YOUR BROTHER?
JUST LIKE YOU DID WITH EDDIE!
HE WAS IN YOUR WAY, SO YOU PUT A LID ON HIM!!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY!!?
DEFENDING DADDY IS A WASTE OF TIME!
BAH
I'LL MAKE THIS CLEAR FOR YOU, MR. LAWYER!
LIRA!!

BECAUSE...
DADDY DID KILL EDDIE!!
LIRA! THAT'S ENOUGH!!
BAM!
WHAM!
WELL IT'S ALL TRUE!!
YOU JUST DIDN'T LIKE THAT I WAS DATING EDDIE!!
THAT'S WHY YOU...
YOU MURDERER!!
BAM
LIRA!!

THAT'S ABSURD!
—THE LATE EDDIE JOHNSON?
SO YOUR DAUGHTER WAS DATING—
I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO SEE THAT...
SHE'S AT A DIFFICULT AGE...
.....
AFTER THAT, JOHNSON KEPT PESTERING HER TO GO OUT WITH HIM, BUT THAT'S ALL.
FOUNDING OF CYBER PROJECT.
VERSARY PARTY
JOHNSON MET LIRA AT THE COMPANY'S ANNIVERSARY PARTY.
LIRA THINKS NOTHING OF HIM.
H-HEY, WHEN DID YOU—?
THEN CAN I HAVE SECONDS? ♪
GO ON, EAT UP. DON'T BE SHY.
EASY FOR HIM TO SAY, BUT RICE...?
WELL, WE NEED NOT CONCERN OURSELVES WITH MY DAUGHTER.
WHISPER
IT DIDN'T LOOK THAT WAY TO ME.

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CERTAINLY.
THERIDIA, SECONDS FOR MYSELF AND THE GIRL, PLEASE.
HEY! CAN'T YOU HEAR ME?
I AM NOT YOUR MAID.
THEY'RE *YOUR* GUESTS.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
YOU TAKE CARE OF THEM.
WELL THIS IS AWKWARD...
MINCE
MINCE
MINCE

HA
HA
HA
HA
MY WIFE JUST GETS NERVOUS IN FRONT OF ATTRACTIVE MEN LIKE YOURSELF, MR. WRIGHT.
OH, DON'T LET HER BOTHER YOU.
UM... DID WE COME AT A BAD TIME?
HEY...
キョロ GLANCE
キョロ GLANCE
ATTRACTIVE MEN? WHERE?
リンゴーン
DING DONG
リンゴーン
DING DONG
NN? WHO WOULD VISIT AT THIS HOUR?
A SECURITY CAMERA.
WHAT'S THAT?
VNNN
CLICK

I HAVE EIGHT OF THEM SET UP AROUND MY HOME.
A BUZZER GOES OFF WHEN THEY DETECT SOMEONE ON THE PREMISES.
!!
THAT'S...
THOSE ARE REAL JEWELS?
THAT'S HOW YOU KNEW WE WERE HERE!
SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO CHASE HIM AWAY AGAIN?
HE MUST BE A DOOR-TO-DOOR SALESMAN OR SOME SUCH.
NO, I DON'T KNOW HIM.
SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

LIRA, WAIT! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
WHAT ELSE? I'M GOING TO WELCOME OUR GUEST!
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
HE'S EDDIE'S BROTHER!!
GRAB!
LEAVE HIM! HE'S ONLY HERE TO PICK A FIGHT!!
WELL IT'S TRUE!
HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO YOUR FATHER THAT WAY!!
SCUM?
LET GO OF ME, YOU SCUM!

HE'S MUY MACHO!
GOOD EVENING.
Z-ZN
Asami SUPER KARAI
Asami
SORRY TO STOP BY SO LATE, MR. WOLFE.
THIS ISN'T MUCH, BUT...
I DON'T WANT ANY-THING FROM YOU!
BROCK JOHNSON (27) OLDER BROTHER OF THE DECEASED EDDIE JOHNSON
YOINK
YOINK
NOT AT ALL. IF NOTH-ING ELSE, I'VE GOT STRONG ARMS.
OOOH, IT'S BEER!
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HEAVY, BROCK!

ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS?
ELECTRICIAN
BROCK JOHNSON
CALL ME ANY TIME YOU HAVE ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS.
NO, I'M AN ELECTRICIAN.
HA
HA
HA
ARE YOU A PRO-WRESTLER?
HE DOESN'T NEED TO KNOW THAT!
NICK HAS A PROBLEM. HE CAN'T PAY HIS ELECTRIC BILL.
OH, RIGHT.
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU RUN THE PLACE, LIRA!
THANKS.
PLEASE COME INSIDE, BROCK.
NO, I WON'T LEAVE.
I'M GOING TO HEAR IT FROM YOUR LIPS. TONIGHT.
I'M SORRY, MR. JOHNSON, BUT GO HOME. I HAVE NOTHING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT!!

ASK ALL YOU WANT, BUT MY ANSWER IS THE SAME!
ALL I DID WAS LECTURE HIM! I TOLD HIM TO BEHAVE HIMSELF AND LISTEN TO THE OPINIONS OF THOSE AROUND HIM!
TELL ME—
—WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND EDDIE THAT NIGHT!
EDDIE ISN'T A BABY!
IF HE KILLED HIMSELF OVER THAT,
HE MUST HAVE BEEN A REAL BABY.
MR. WOLFE...
I DID SOME RESEARCH...
!?
...ON YOUR BROTHER, BOBBY WOLFE.

THE NIGHT YOU CALLED EDDIE HERE,
YOUR BROTHER WAS OUT OF THE HOUSE.
APPARENTLY YOU ASKED HIM TO GO TO A BRANCH OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO TO DELIVER SOME PAPERWORK.
YES... THAT'S RIGHT.
SO WHAT ABOUT IT!?
I HEAR THAT HE WAS ECSTATIC.
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME HIS BROTHER HAD ASKED HIM TO DO ANYTHING FOR HIM.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY!?

AND THE FAMILY DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HIM, BECAUSE HE LETS OUT STRANGE CRIES AND THROWS WILD FITS ALL THE TIME.
HE HAS TROUBLE COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS, AND TENDS TO SHUT HIMSELF UP AT HOME.
I'VE ASKED A BUNCH OF CYBER PROJECT EMPLOY-EES.
AND I FOUND OUT SOME THINGS ABOUT BOBBY.
THAT BUILDING OUT THERE THAT LOOKS LIKE A BLACK BOX.
THAT'S WHERE YOUR BROTHER LIVES, RIGHT?

YOU BUILT A GUEST HOUSE FOR LITTLE BOBBY.
YOU'RE SUCH A LOVING OLDER BROTHER.
YOUR EMPLOYEES WERE ALL SINGING YOUR PRAISES...

DADDY DIDN'T BUILD THAT HOUSE FOR MY UNCLE.
HE BUILT IT FOR HIMSELF.
THEY'RE JUST FLATTERING HIM.
THEY CAN'T TELL HIM THE TRUTH, BECAUSE THEY'RE AFRAID OF HIM.
IT WOULD MAKE YOU LOOK BAD IF YOUR PRECIOUS GUESTS SAW UNCLE BOBBY WHEN YOU INVITED THEM OVER!
SO YOU LOCK HIM UP IN THERE!
IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT, DADDY!?
MR. WOLFE.
YOU WERE ALWAYS TRYING TO KEEP YOUR BROTHER OUT THE PUBLIC EYE.
SO WHY WOULD YOU SUDDENLY SEND HIM OFF TO SAN FRANCISCO?
EVEN IF THAT WERE TRUE, THEN WHAT OF IT!?
THAT'S WHY YOU BUILT THAT CREEPY HOUSE...
RAR

BOBBY TURNS 35 THIS YEAR.
NO COMPANY WOULD EVER HIRE A RECLUSE LIKE HIM.
AND ON THE VERY DAY YOU BROUGHT EDDIE HERE!
SO FIRST I SENT HIM TO THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE TO SEE HOW HE'D DO GREETING MY EMPLOYEES!!
HE NEEDS TO LEARN HOW TO WORK, STEP BY STEP...
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LOOK AFTER HIM MYSELF!
I START BY GIVING HIM A SIMPLE JOB...
TO GIVE HIM CONFIDENCE!!
NO, THAT'S NOT WHY.
WHY WOULD YOU MAKE IT A POINT TO SEND YOUR BROTHER-
AND THEY WERE PAPERS THAT COULD JUST AS EASILY HAVE BEEN FAXED.
ALL HE DID WAS PUT SOME PAPERS IN THE MAILBOX!
GREET THEM?

I EVEN GOT A TEXT MESSAGE THAT SAID, "MR. WOLFE CALLED ME OVER,
SO I'LL BE AT YOUR HOUSE TONIGHT."
I THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD WHEN HE NEVER SHOWED UP.
LIRA.
DID YOU SEE EDDIE HERE IN THIS HOUSE ON THE NIGHT YOUR FATHER INVITED HIM OVER?
NO, I DIDN'T.
SINCE BOBBY HAPPENED TO BE AWAY IN SAN FRANCISCO.
I WANTED TO TALK TO HIM ALONE IN A QUIET PLACE,
SO I TOOK HIM TO THE GUEST HOUSE.
RIDICULOUS! WHAT BASIS DO YOU HAVE...
BUT YOUR BROTHER WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE WAY.
SO YOU MADE UP AN EXCUSE FOR HIM TO LEAVE.
THAT'S NOT TRUE...
YOU WERE PLANNING TO LURE EDDIE INTO THAT HOUSE ALL ALONG.

EDDIE HAS SEVERE ARACHNO-PHOBIA.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HE WAS BITTEN BY A VENOMOUS SPIDER AS A KID AND NEARLY DIED.
EVER SINCE, HE'S BEEN UNREASON-ABLY AFRAID OF SPIDERS.
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
IS... IS THAT TRUE!?
YES... BUT ONLY HIS RELATIVES KNEW ABOUT IT.
EDDIE WOULD NEVER LET ANYONE SEE HIS WEAKNESS.
BUT...
IF EDDIE IS AFRAID OF SPIDERS, AND HE WENT INTO THAT BUILDING...
THAT HOUSE...
WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE FOR YOUR-SELF, MR. LAWYER?
THEN YOU'LL KNOW WHAT A TERRIBLE THING DADDY DID TO EDDIE!!
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NICK.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE MISSING SOME-THING.
UMM.
I'M NOT REALLY FOL-LOWING THE CONVERSA-TION...

IS A DEN OF
SPIDERS.

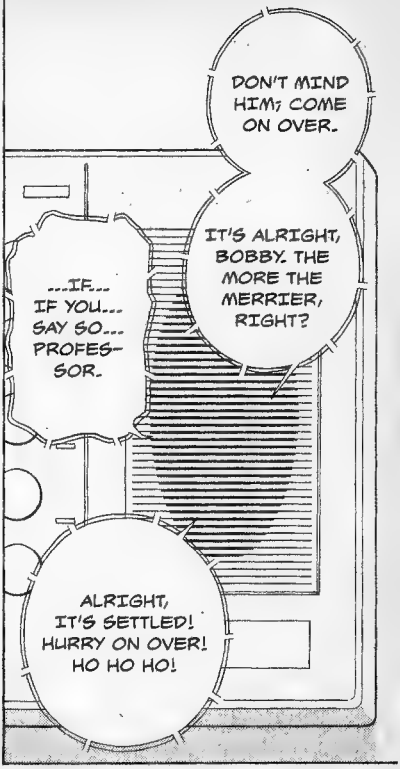
MR. WOLFE'S YOUNGER BROTHER IS AN EXTREME—
I ONLY FOUND OUT TODAY. IT SHOCKED ME, TOO.
—SPIDER FANATIC!
D...
DEN OF SPIDERS !!?

WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN IF AN ARACHNOPHOBE LIKE EDDIE FOUND HIMSELF LOCKED UP IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?
I HEARD THAT HE KEEPS TONS OF SPIDERS IN HIS HOME.
THE SPIDER...
IS... AFTER... ME...
EDDIE'S LAST WORDS WERE "THE SPIDER IS AFTER ME."
MR. WOLFE...
IS THAT TRUE?
AND THAT'S WHY EDDIE...
MR. WOLFE!!
YOU USED THOSE SPIDERS TO DO SOMETHING HORRIBLE TO EDDIE!!

BUT HOW COULD I HAVE KNOWN THAT HE HAD ARACHNOPHOBIA?
IT'S TRUE THAT I TOOK JOHNSON TO THE GUEST HOUSE.
THAT IS A PREPOSTEROUS ACCUSATION.
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY—
—THAT ONLY HIS RELATIVES KNEW ABOUT IT?
MR. WRIGHT. I'M SORRY FOR THE INTERRUPTION.
BUT PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE.
I HAVE WORK TO DO, SO IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
HMPH. I REFUSE TO PLAY ALONG WITH THIS.
YOU HAVE AN ENORMOUS INFORMATION NETWORK AT YOUR COMMAND.
YOU'RE THE PRESIDENT OF AN IT ENTERPRISE.

GHK
.....
I'M GOING TO MY STUDY TO FINISH UP SOME BUSINESS.
WHEN I'M DONE, WE'LL HAVE A NICE, CALM DISCUSSION ABOUT OUR COURT STRATEGY.
Y-YES, SIR.
HEY, HEY.
BEFORE WE AGREE TO DEFEND HIM, WE'D BETTER INVESTIGATE THE GUEST HOUSE!
YEAH, GOOD IDEA.
UM...
WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT IF WE TOOK A LOOK AT THE OTHER HOUSE?
YEAH, I'D LIKE TO SEE IT, TOO.
THE DEN OF SPIDERS.
I DON'T THINK HE'LL MIND...
BUT LET ME ASK MY UNCLE.
...WH... WHO IS IT...?
IT'S ME, UNCLE BOBBY! LIRA.
SO THE INTERCOM CONNECTS TO THE SPIDERS' LAIR, TOO.
BEEEEP

...CAN I... HELP YOU...?
OUR GUESTS SAY THEY WANT TO SEE WHERE YOU LIVE.
TH-THEY CAN'T... TELL THEM NO... I DON'T... WANT TO SEE THEM.
HELLO, MY NAME IS BROCK JOHNSON.
I WOULD REALLY LOVE TO SEE YOUR SPIDER COLLECTION.
NO...! ...I DON'T WANT... TO TALK TO ANY STRANGERS...
NOW, NOW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT. LET THEM SEE IT, BOBBY!
OH! PROFESSOR SPITZER'S WITH YOU!
YEP, I'M HERE ALRIGHT.
I JUST DON'T FEEL RIGHT IF I DON'T VISIT AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK. HO HO HO.
WHO IS THAT?
PROFESSOR THOMAS SPITZER. A COLLEGE PROFESSOR WHO LIVES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
HE'S STUDYING THE ECOLOGY OF SPIDERS, SO HE COMES OVER A LOT, TO SEE UNCLE BOBBY'S COLLECTION.


DON'T MIND HIM; COME ON OVER.
IT'S ALRIGHT, BOBBY. THE MORE THE MERRIER, RIGHT?
...IF... IF YOU... SAY SO... PROFES-SOR.
ALRIGHT, IT'S SETTLED! HURRY ON OVER! HO HO HO!

SEPTEMBER 20, 8:11 PM

GUEST HOUSE (DEN OF SPIDERS)

DEN OF SPIDERS, HUH...? WHAT KIND OF A PLACE...
COME ON IN. THE DOOR'S OPEN.
B... BE STRONG, NICK.
Y... YEAH.
EXCUSE US...
CRRRREAK

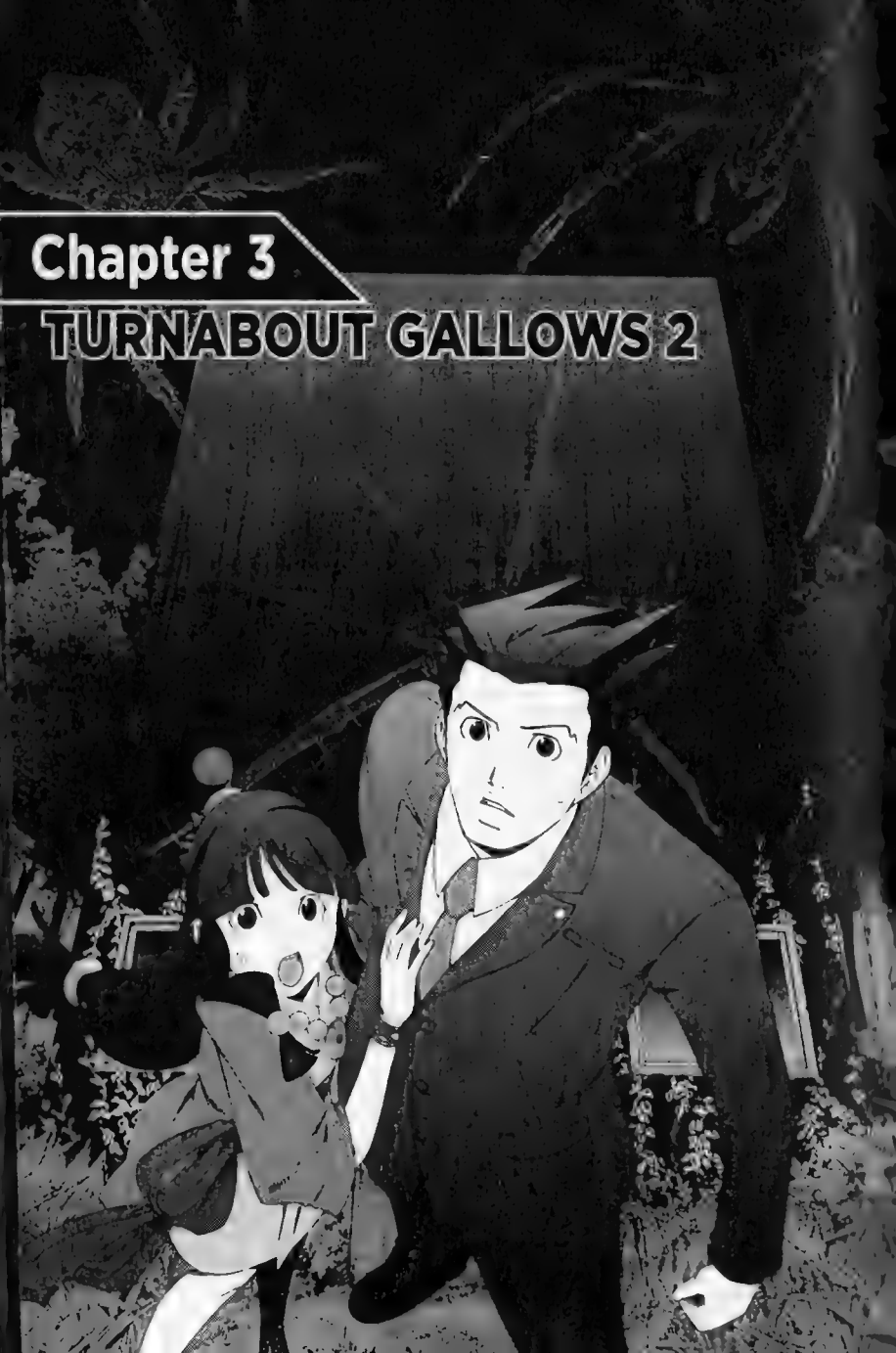
The Venomous Spider Part Two
The Venomous Spider Part One
Living with Spiders Part Two
Living with Spiders Part One
Spider Ecology from Cave
Arachnology in Japan
Spider Ecology in Cave

Orb Weave
Sheet Weav
Tangle Web Wee
Line & Fan Wea
Spider-Eating Sp
Webless Spid
Underground Subter
Spiders and Their Prey
World of Spiders 4
World of Spiders 3
World of Spiders 2
World of Spiders 1
Encyclopedia of Spiders
Encyclopedia of Spiders
Encyclopedia of Spiders
Encyclopedia of Spiders 2
SKITTER
SKITTER
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

WELCOME TO THE DEN OF SPIDERS.
.....
I AM BOBBY'S FRIEND AND GREATEST SYMPATHIZER, THOMAS SPITZER.
A PLEASURE! HO HO HO.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
ISN'T IT WONDER-FUL?
SO THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE ON THE IN-SIDE.
THE DOOR... NOW...
.....CLOSE...
WINCE!
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
OH!
SLAM!
THE SPIDERS.
B... BABIES?
...IF THE ROOM'S... TEMPERATURE CHANGES... MY BABIES... WILL DIE...
THANK YOU...
LEER

FLAP FLAP
FLAP FLAP
FLAP FLAP
RUNCH
RUNCH
LITTLE DID I KNOW...
...THAT THIS WOULD BECOME THE TERRIFYING CASE OF THE SPIDER MAN.


Chapter 3
TURNABOUT GALLOWS 2

SEPTEMBER 20, 8:15 PM

GUEST HOUSE (DEN OF SPIDERS)

HO HO HO. HE DOESN'T TALK MUCH TO ANYONE OTHER THAN MYSELF.
DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
...HE... LLO...
COME NOW BOBBY SAY HELLO.
THIS IS THE HEAD OF THIS WONDERFUL HOUSE OF SPIDERS, BOBBY WOLFE.

HE COULD HAVE HIS SPIDERS ON DISPLAY HERE AND THERE IN A WIDER ROOM.
BUT IT'S EASIER TO FEEL CLOSE TO THEIR SOULS LIKE THIS.
SKITTER
EEEEEK!
CLOSE...
TO THEIR SOULS...?
SWOON
IT'S MAKING ME SICK...
WOW... I FEEL LIKE I'M ONE WITH THE SPIDERS...
SWOON
STILL, THIS IS INCRED-IBLE.
FROM THE OUTSIDE, I THOUGHT THIS WAS A THREE-STORY BUILDING.
BUT IT'S JUST ONE ROOM ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP.
BOBBY INSISTED THAT MR. WOLFE BUILD IT LIKE THIS.
THAT'S OUR BOBBY.

EVERYTHING FROM ACADEMIC BOOKS TO ENCYCLOPEDIAS, NOVELS, COMICS... THEY'RE ALL VERY VALUABLE BOOKS.
I WOULDN'T BE EXAGGERATING IF I TOLD YOU HE'S COLLECTED EVERY SPIDER BOOK IN THE WORLD.
THERE'S SPIDER-MAN COMICS OVER HERE!
AND ALL OF THOSE BOOKS ARE ABOUT SPIDERS, TOO?
"THE SPIDER'S THREAD," "ANANSI THE SPIDER" ...HE EVEN HAS KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN.
THEY'RE EVEN ARRANGED BY SIZE.
Encyclopedia of Spiders 1
Encyclopedia of Spiders 2
Encyclopedia of Spiders 3
Encyclopedia of Spiders 4
Encyclopedia of Spiders 5
World of Spiders 1
World of Spiders 2
World of Spiders 3
World of Spiders 4
AMAZING. I'M SURPRISED AT HOW CAREFULLY THEY'RE ORGANIZED.
IT'S PERFECT BEAUTY, LIKE A SPIDER'S WEB!
BEAUTY PERFECTED!!
THIS IS SPIDER ENTHUSIAST HEAVEN!!
HO HO HO!
HE TELLS ME HE HAD THE SHELVES BUILT TO MATCH THE SIZES OF THE BOOKS AND THE TERRARIUMS.
THAT'S WHY THERE'S NO EMPTY SPACE.

UM..
HOW DO YOU GET TO THE BOOKS ON THE HIGHER LEVELS?
THERE'S A LIFT THERE, SEE?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY IT?
OH... YES.
ME TOO, ME TOO! ♪
CLANK
WILL IT HOLD BOTH OF US?
NOT TO WORRY. JUST PUSH THE RED BUTTON IN FRONT OF YOU.
UWAAAAAHH!
ZHUUUUNNG
GLANCE GLANCE
STOP
TH-THIS IS HIGH
HUH? IS THIS AS HIGH AS IT GOES?
I CAN'T REACH!
IF IT WENT ANY HIGHER, A TALL PERSON WOULD HIT HIS HEAD.
THAT'S ITS LIMIT.
I'M DONE! LET'S GET DOWN!!

SKITTER
SKITTER
HI
WHAT!? MR. SPITZER!
TRY TELLING ME THAT BEFORE I ACCIDENTALLY KILL MYSELF...
ACTUALLY, THE MANUAL SAYS TO NEVER RIDE WITH TWO PEOPLE.
EEK!!
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
AH...!
CHAR-LOTTE... SHE GOT OUT AGAIN...!!
...
OH NO! HELP US CATCH HER!
BAM
W-WAIT... CHAR-LOTTE...!!
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER

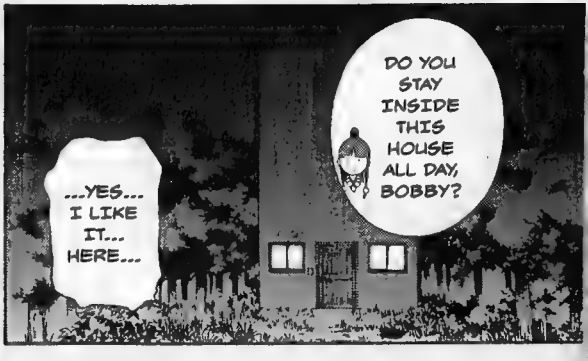
SO MUCH DUST! WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
CHARL... OTTE... WHERE... ARE YOU...?
CLICK
LOOKS LIKE A STORAGE SHED.
CHAR-LOTTE...
RUSTLE
ACK
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
OKAY, SO WE JUST MOVE THE TANKS...
AH! THERE SHE IS!
SHE RAN BEHIND THE GAS TANKS!
NICK! THERE'S ROOM ON TOP OF THE SHELVES!
HUH?
...ER, WHERE DO I PUT THEM...?
THESE ARE HEAVY...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
THERE'S NO WHERE TO PUT THEM IN ALL THIS JUNK!

CLUNK CLUNK
U... UPSY-DAISY...
THERE SHE IS! WE FOUND HER!!
CHAR... LOTTE...
EEEEEK! EEEEEK! I CAUGHT HER! WHAT WAS I THINKING!!?
WHAT DO I DO!? IT'S SKIT-TERING AROUND! EEEK! EEEK!
WHAM
WHAM
H-HOLD ON... I'LL FIND A CASE FOR HER...!!
FLUSTER
FLUSTER
GOTCHA! ♪
HA!!
CLAP!
CHILLLLL
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER

SEAL IT UP WITH DUCT TAPE AND WE'RE A-OK!
MY ONE GOOD SUIT...
THANK YOU...
FOR CATCH-ING HER...
NEVER MIND! I'LL PUT HER HERE!!
HUH!?
AS THANKS... YOU CAN KEEP... CHAR-LOTTE.
!
B... BUT ISN'T SHE YOUR PRECIOUS SPIDER?
I THINK... SHE HATES ME...
SHE'S... ALWAYS... TRYING TO GET AWAY...
JUST LIKE MY BROTHER...
SHE'S... CARRYING LOTS OF EGGS IN HER BELLY.
BE CAREFUL WITH HER...
SO SHE'LL... BE HAVING BABIES SOON...
TH... THANKS.
SO... YOU CAN HAVE HER...

SEPTEMBER 20, 8:15 PM

GUEST HOUSE (DEN OF SPIDERS)



IS SOMETHING WRONG, MR. WRIGHT?
HMMM...
FLUFF
FLUFF
SQUEE
SQUEE
BROCK... I THINK I MAY OFFEND YOU BY SAYING THIS, BUT...
I THINK THAT MR. WOLFE REALLY DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH EDDIE'S SUICIDE.
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? EDDIE WAS TERRIFIED OF SPIDERS!
HE WOULD HAVE PANICKED, IF HE WAS LOCKED IN HERE FOR A LONG TIME! I KNOW HE WOULD HAVE!!
AND I WOULDN'T BE SUPRISED IF IT DID MAKE HIM KILL HIMSELF!!
THEN WHY DIDN'T EDDIE JUST RUN AWAY...?
HUH?

BUT EDDIE WAS IN A NATIONAL JUDO COMPETITION, WASN'T HE?
MR. WOLFE SAID SO.
WITH MR. WOLFE'S SLENDER BUILD, EDDIE COULD HAVE RESISTED AN ATTACK, NO PROBLEM.
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE HAD ANY TROUBLE GETTING OUT...
AND THERE ARE BIG WINDOWS.
I MEAN, HE WOULD, RIGHT?
YOU CAN UNLOCK THE DOOR EASILY FROM THE INSIDE.
PRESS
GULP
MAYBE HE WAS BEING HELD DOWN, AND HE COULDN'T RUN...?
.....
MMM, I'M FALLING ASLEEP
THAT REMOTE CONTROL...
DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S FOR?
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
MR. WRIGHT...
SOME-THING'S BEEN BOTHER-ING ME.

SNATCH
NO, I DON'T THINK SO. THAT'S BY THE DOOR.
A TV REMOTE?
BUT THERE'S NOT A TV IN HERE... MAYBE IT'S FOR THE AIR-CONDITIONER?
BEEP
AH! THAT'S...
CLANK
CLANNNG
CLANK
CLANK
EH?
SHRRR

AAAAAAHH! WHAT'S HAPPENING !!?
I CAN'T MOVE!!!
CLATTER

HELP ME, NICK! HURRY!!
MAYA!!
Y-YOU! PUSH THE BUTTON AGAIN!!!
Y... YES SIR.
VNNNN
NNN
WHEW. THAT WAS SCARY...
WHAT IS THIS?
RUB RUB
A... A DEVICE... TO HOLD ME DOWN...
BECAUSE MY BROTHER DOESN'T WANT ME WALKING AROUND OUTSIDE... WHEN HIS PRECIOUS GUESTS ARE VISITING...
THAT'S WHY HE MADE IT...
BUT THAT'S ABUSE!

NO, NO. BOBBY DOESN'T MIND BEING TIED UP IN THIS CHAIR.
PAT
HE'S HAPPY AS LONG AS HE'S SURROUNDED BY SPIDERS.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, BOBBY?
PAT
BUT TYING HIM TO A CHAIR...
MR. WOLFE MADE THE DEVICE OUT OF LOVE FOR HIS LITTLE BROTHER.
BECAUSE WHEN BOBBY GETS THINKING ABOUT SPIDERS, HE LOSES SIGHT OF WHAT'S AROUND HIM.
WHAT IF HE DASHED OUTSIDE AFTER AN ESCAPED SPIDER AND GOT HURT?
THIS CHAIR IS LIKE A BABY FENCE, SET UP TO PROTECT AN INFANT.
...HE CALLS HIMSELF BOBBY'S GREATEST SYMPATHIZER.
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE WON'T STAND UP TO MR. WOLFE FOR HIM...

MR. SPITZER.
IS IT POSSIBLE TO UNDO THE RESTRAINTS ONCE THEY'VE GOT YOU?
YOU NEED TO ASK? YOU CAN JUST USE THE REMOTE, OF COURSE.
SO YOU CAN'T UNDO THEM WITHOUT THE REMOTE!?
IF YOU CUT THE MAIN POWER, IT ACTIVATES THE SAFETY DEVICE AND UNDOES THE LOCKS.
WHERE'S THE MAIN POWER SWITCH?
RIGHT HERE.
YOU CAN'T REACH A SWITCH ALL THE WAY DOWN THERE IF YOU'RE CHAINED TO THE CHAIR!!
ON
OFF
SO IF YOU WERE TIED DOWN WHEN YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE REMOTE...
YOU'D BE STUCK UNLESS YOU HAD HELP, RIGHT!?
I... I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE.

WELL, HAVE A SEAT.
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
HE HAD EDDIE SIT IN THE CHAIR, WAITED FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT, AND PUSHED THE BUTTON ON THE REMOTE...
CLANK
!?
THAT WAY, EVEN A WEAKLING LIKE MR. WOLFE COULD KEEP EDDIE IN HERE!
MR. WRIGHT!
MR. WOLFE DID KILL EDDIE!!
HE WAS TRAPPED IN THIS ROOM, FULL OF CREEPY, SQUIRMING SPIDERS FOR SO LONG,
AND THEN...!!
HE HAD A PANIC ATTACK...
AARRGH!
SPIDERS!
SPIDERS!
AAAAA
ARRRGH

WELL... I...
DO YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN DEFEND MR. WOLFE NOW?
THAT'S SO BOBBY WON'T BREAK THE CHAIR DURING ONE OF HIS FITS...
YANK
YANK
SEE? THE TABLE IS BOLTED, TOO.
SEE? IT WON'T BUDGE!
IT'S BOLTED TO THE FLOOR WITH SPECIAL FASTENERS!
YANK
YANK
LOOK AT THIS!
I CAN'T KEEP QUIET ABOUT THIS!
I'M GOING TO TALK TO MR. WOLFE ONE MORE TIME!!
DASH
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, BROCK?
BAM
GRRRR!!

OH...! WOULD YOU LOOK AT THE TIME.
I HAD BETTER GET GOING MYSELF.
SEE YOU LATER! HO HO HO!
I'LL BE TAKING ONE OF THESE.
I'LL COME VISIT YOU AGAIN SOON, BOBBY.
HE'S WAY TOO ABSENT-MINDED. I JUST CAN'T TRUST HIM.
BUT... MR. WOLFE...
...IS OBVIOUSLY THE MURDERER.
ARE YOU GOING TO DEFEND MR. WOLFE?
WHAT WILL YOU DO, NICK?

ALRIGHT.
LET'S GO SEE MR. WOLFE AGAIN AND LEARN AS MUCH AS WE CAN.
BUT THIS IS PRACTICALLY THE SAME THING.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE HE KILLED HIM DIRECTLY.
YES... GOODBYE...
THANKS FOR HAVING US, BOBBY.
!

I BET HE'S IGNORING ME.
THE DOOR'S LOCKED! HE HAS TO BE IN THERE!!
THAT WOLFE! I KNOCKED ON HIS STUDY DOOR, BUT HE WOULDN'T ANSWER.
PANT PANT
PANT PANT
BROCK...
STOMP
STOMP
THIS IS GETTING KIND OF CRAZY.
I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE THAT DEN OF SPIDERS A LITTLE MORE.
I WANT PROOF THAT HE KILLED EDDIE!!
DOES HE THINK THIS IS A JOKE!?
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
!
OH!
KACHAK

GO OUT DRINKING...? BUT AREN'T YOU UNDERAGE?
IT'S ILLEGAL FOR A MINOR TO CONSUME ALCOHOL...
YOU'RE GOING OUT AT THIS HOUR, LIRA?
OH... A FRIEND INVITED ME TO GO OUT DRINKING...
OH, MY MISTAKE! THEY INVITED ME OUT FOR SOME CAKE..
WELL, I'M OFF! ♪
HUH
WE'LL TELL MR. WOLFE OUR DECISION,
AND THEN GO HOME.
YEAH...
MAYBE WE SHOULD TURN HIM DOWN THIS TIME.
.....

BUT IT WOULD BE RUDE TO LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING.
MAYBE WE SHOULD SAY SOMETHING TO HIS WIFE...
HMM, BUT SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO LIKE US BEING HERE VERY MUCH...
I'M AFRAID TO FACE HER...
KNOCK KNOCK
MR. WOLFE? THIS IS PHOENIX WRIGHT.
RATTLE
RATTLE
NO ANSWER... IS HE ASLEEP?
THERE'S STILL SOME CAT RICE LEFT, AFTER ALL. ♪
THEN LET'S GO TO THE DINING HALL AND WAIT FOR MR. WOLFE TO WAKE UP!
TEP
TEP
TEP

SEPTEMBER 20, 10:28 PM

GUEST HOUSE (DEN OF SPIDERS)

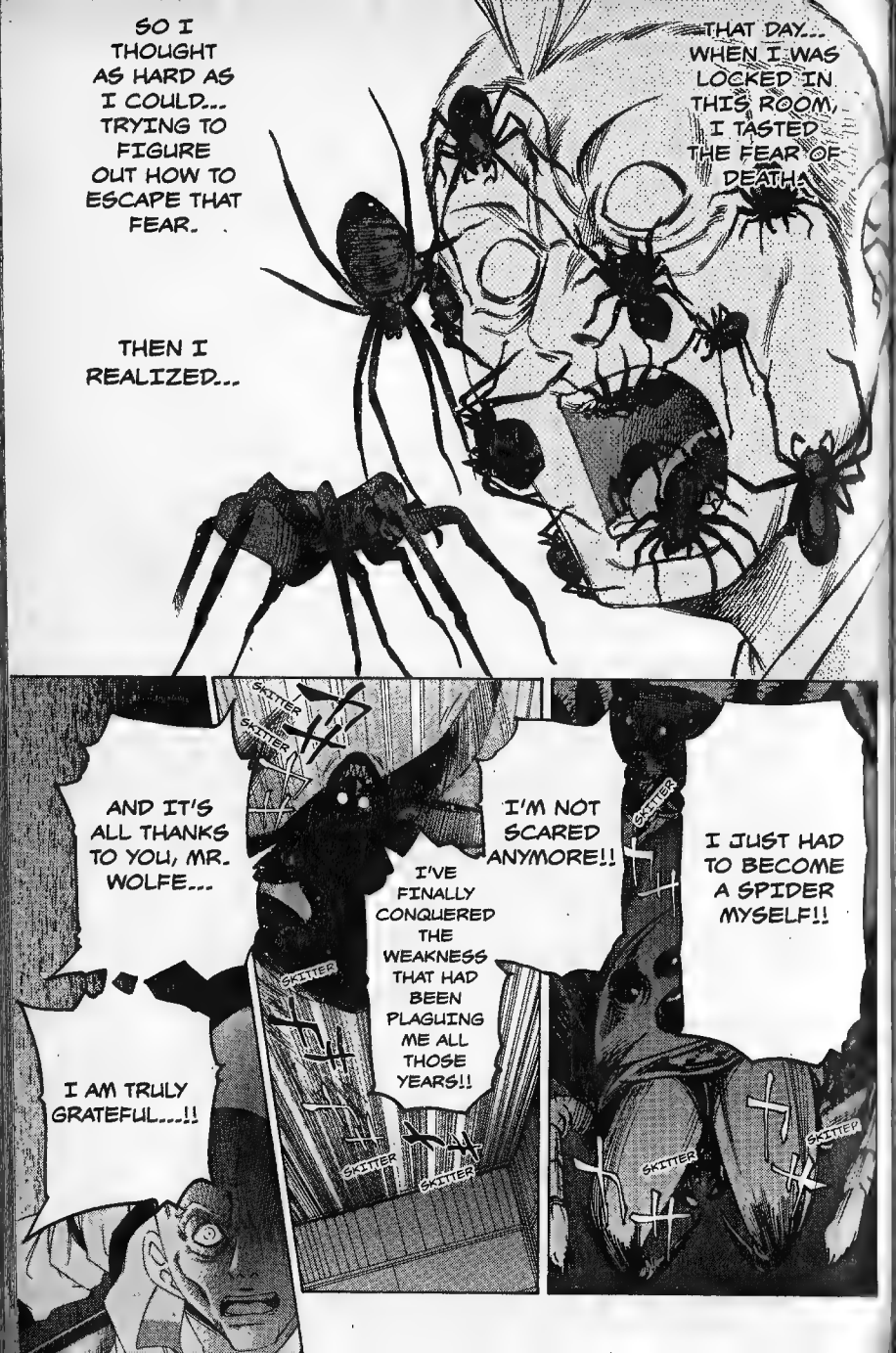
WH...
WHO—
—DID
THIS...
—TO
ME!!?
B...
BLAST
IT...!
WHO...
WOULD DO
SUCH A
THING...?

!!
AWAKE NOW, ARE WE? PRESIDENT WOLFE...
...WH...
WHERE ARE YOU HIDING...?
WHO'S THERE...?
LOOK UP.
...UP...?
I'M NOT HIDING.

A... A MAN...

ON THE CEILING!!?
KEH KEH KEH KEH KEH KEH KEH KEH
WH... WHAT—
—ARE YOU!!?

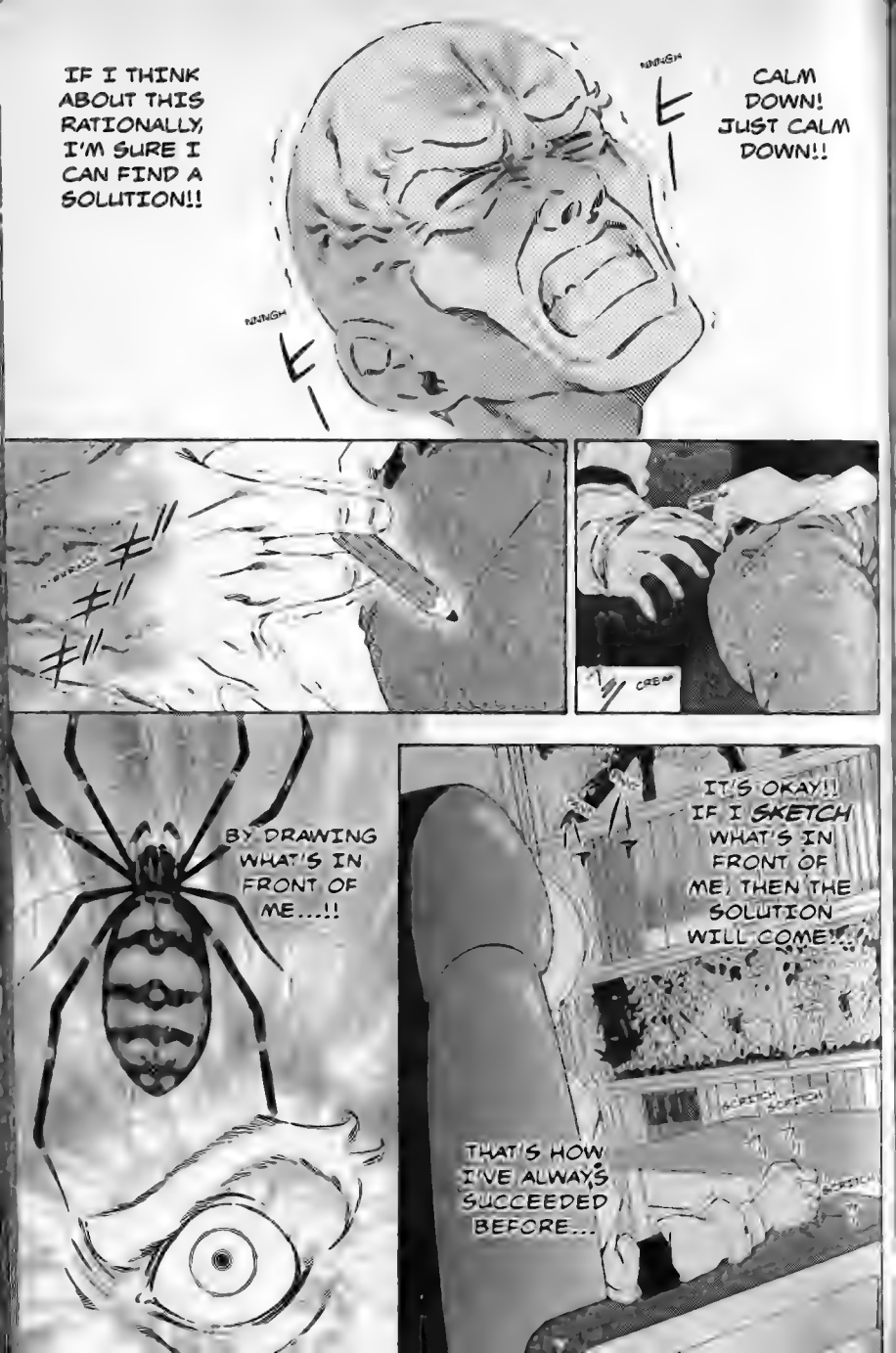
EDDIE JOHNSON.
THE MAN YOU KILLED...!!
SKITTER
OH, COME ON. DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT ME?
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
IT'S ME.
SKITTER
THANKS TO YOU, I'VE OVERCOME MY FEAR OF SPIDERS.
I CAME BACK FROM HELL TO GIVE YOU MY THANKS, MR. WOLFE.
EDDIE JOHNSON!?
TH... THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS!!


SO I THOUGHT AS HARD AS I COULD... TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO ESCAPE THAT FEAR.
THEN I REALIZED...
...THAT DAY... WHEN I WAS LOCKED IN THIS ROOM, I TASTED THE FEAR OF DEATH.
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, MR. WOLFE...
I'VE FINALLY CONQUERED THE WEAKNESS THAT HAD BEEN PLAGUING ME ALL THOSE YEARS!!
I'M NOT SCARED ANYMORE!!
I JUST HAD TO BECOME A SPIDER MYSELF!!
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
I AM TRULY GRATEFUL...!!

THIS IS A DREAM!!
RIDICULOUS!
HE... BECAME...
A SPIDER!?
THAT'S RIGHT... I'M DREAMING...
FEEL FREE TO INTERPRET IT HOWEVER YOU LIKE.
Y... YOU'RE GOING TO KILL ME!?
BECAUSE IF YOU THINK THIS IS A DREAM...
IT WILL BE EASIER FOR YOU TO DIE...!!
S... SMELL!?
I SEE YOU'RE HAVING A HARD TIME TAKING IN THE SITUATION. YOU HAVEN'T EVEN NOTICED THE SMELL.
SNIFF
SNIFF

MR. WOLFE...
PLAY A GAME WITH ME.
YOU DOUSED THE PLACE WITH KEROSENE!!?
ZWAH
!!
K... KERO-SENE!?
I SET A TIME BOMB WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING.
IT WILL IGNITE—
—AT EXACTLY 11:00. YOU HAVE 30 MINUTES.
B-BEEP
B-BEEP
B-BEEP
BUT I'LL BE TAKING THE REMOTE THAT UNLOCKS THE CHAIR.
IF YOU CAN GET OUT OF THE BUILDING IN HALF AN HOUR, YOU'LL LIVE.
PLEASE, SEARCH THE DEPTHS OF YOUR KNOWL-EDGE TO FIND A WAY OUT.
STOP THIS!! UNDO THESE RE-STRAINTS!
THIS PLACE WILL GO UP LIKE A ROMAN CANDLE.
STRAIN
STRAIN

SOMEBODY!! IS ANYBODY THERE!?
HELP ME! HELP ME!!
WHERE DID YOU GO? HEY!!
W-WAIT!!
LET ME GO!! TAKE OFF THESE RE-STRAINTS!
WELL, GOOD LUCK.
CRITTER
CRITTER
CRITTER
CRITTER
CRITTER
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK
IT'S NO USE!
THERE'S NO WAY MY SHOUTING WILL REACH THE MAIN HOUSE...
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
AAAAHH!
WAAAH
WAAAH
WAAAH
WAAAH
WAAAH


IF I THINK ABOUT THIS RATIONALLY, I'M SURE I CAN FIND A SOLUTION!!
NNNGH
NNNGH
CALM DOWN! JUST CALM DOWN!!
CREAK
BY DRAWING WHAT'S IN FRONT OF ME...!!
IT'S OKAY!! IF I SKETCH WHAT'S IN FRONT OF ME, THEN THE SOLUTION WILL COME!!
SCRITCH SCRITCH
THAT'S HOW I'VE ALWAYS SUCCEEDED BEFORE...
SCRITCH

SEPTEMBER 20, 10:51 PM
DINING HALL
I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT DO WE DO?
IS MR. WOLFE STILL ASLEEP...?
IT'S ALMOST ELEVEN...
YEAH...
OH. BROCK.
YOU'RE STILL HERE, MR. WRIGHT?
HUH?
WHAT?
YOU'RE ALL STILL HERE?
OH! WELCOME HOME.
YEAH. I WANTED TO LOOSEN BOBBY UP WITH SOME ALCOHOL AND GET SOME INFORMATION OUT OF HIM.
BUT... HE WAS COMPLETELY HAMMERED AFTER JUST ONE BEER.
YOU WERE IN THE DEN OF SPIDERS ALL THIS TIME?

DADDY!
DADDY!
DOZE
UGH! DADDY, YOU'RE SO HOPELESS!
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
GET BACK, EVERY-ONE.
?
WHEN HE DRINKS, HE FALLS SO FAR ASLEEP, EVEN PUNCHING HIM WON'T WAKE HIM UP.
HE'S PROBABLY ASLEEP.
THIS HOUSE MAY LOOK LIKE A NICE PLACE, BUT IT'S ACTUALLY KIND OF FALLING APART. SO THE DOORS OPEN RIGHT UP. ♪
HEH
HIYA!!
SMASH
WINCE

...HE'S NOT HERE, EITHER.
CLACK
CLACK
HUH? HE'S NOT HERE.
IS HE IN BED?
AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT...
WHAT IS IT?
DADDY? WELL YOU WON'T FIND HIM HERE!
YOU ALL ARE STILL HERE
SORRY
N-NEVER MIND THAT...
WE HAVE A PROBLEM. DADDY'S GONE!
LIRA! WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT? WERE YOU OUT LATE PARTYING AGAIN!?
YOU ARE OUR PRECIOUS HEIRESS! YOU NEED TO ACT LIKE IT.

SHA
DEAR!
DE...
HONESTLY, HE'S SUCH A BOTHER.
MAYBE HE'S IN THE BATH...?
MARCH
MARCH
MARCH
TROT
TROT
TROT
WHERE ARE YOU, DEAR?
MR. WOLFE!
DADDY !!
DEEEEP
DEAR!
IF YOU'RE THERE, WILL YOU ANSWER ME?
HMM...
THAT'S POS-SIBLE!
MAYBE HE'S IN THE SPIDERS' LAIR?
WE LOOKED ALL OVER AND WE CAN'T FIND HIM...

DEAR!
DEAR, ARE YOU THERE?
THANK HEAVENS! YOU SAVED MY LIFE, THERIDIA!!
DEAR!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE?
KGH... THE FIRE STARTS IN THREE MINUTES!!
THERE'S NO TIME! PLEASE!!
SHUT OFF THE MAIN BREAKER! NOW!!
EH!? WHAT'S GOING ON?
GWAH
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN!
HURRY!!

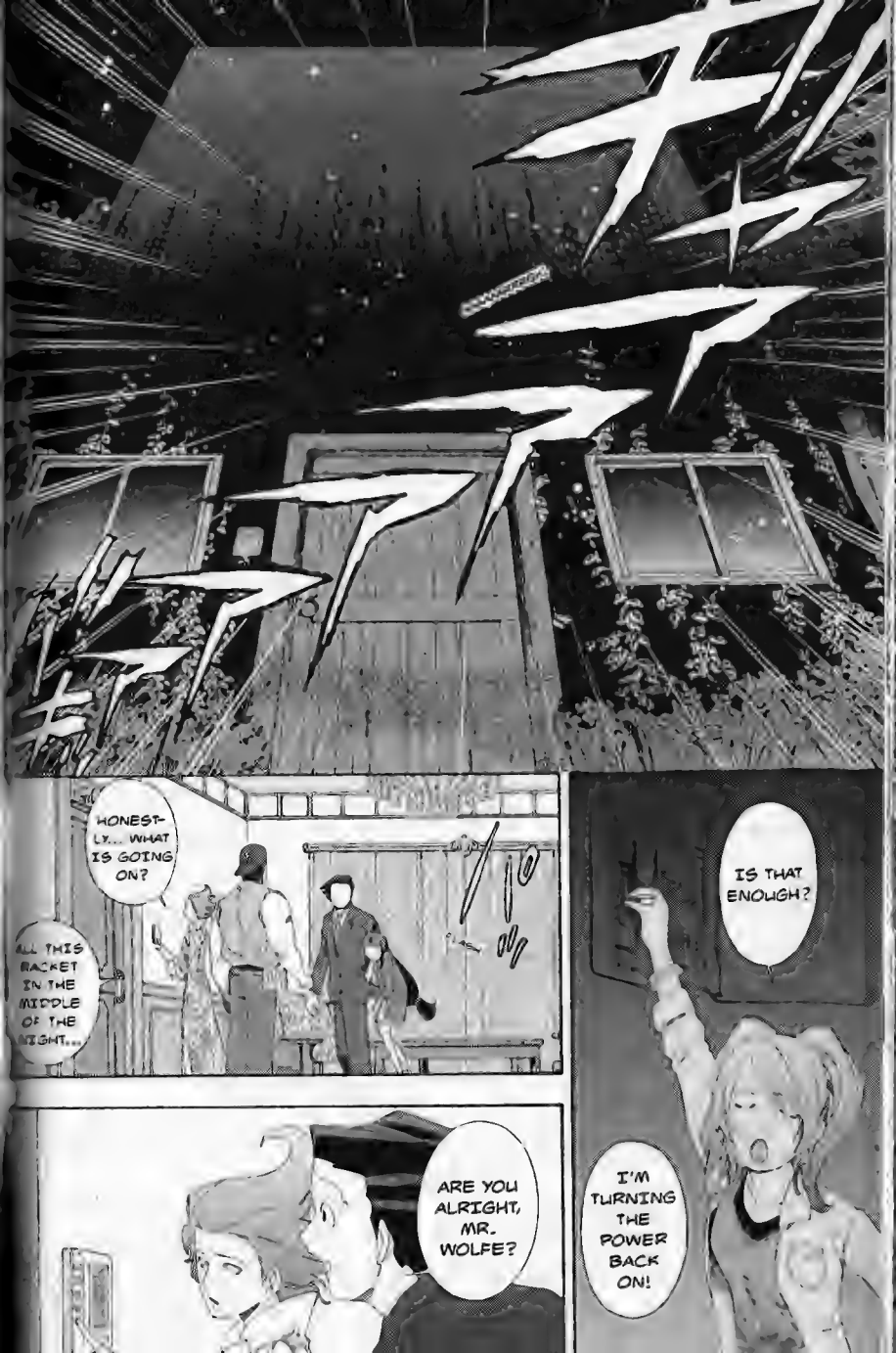
LIRA... HE WANTS US TO SHUT OFF THE BREAKER.
WHAT'S THE BREAKER?
I SAW IT IN THE ENTRANCE HALL.
OH, RIGHT.
THANKS, MR. ELECTRICIAN!
THE CIRCUIT BREAKER; IT'S THERE TO STOP THE CIRCUIT FROM OVERLOADING.
YOU MUST HAVE SEEN IT WHEN THERE WAS A BLACKOUT OR SOMETHING.
OH! THAT SWITCH THAT DADDY PULLED THE TIME WE USED TOO MUCH ELECTRICITY, RIGHT?
WHERE WAS IT AGAIN?
HURRY! SHUT OFF THE BREAKER!!
BUT... WHY THE BREAKER...?
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE FULLY AWAKE?
I'M SURE!! THERE'S NO TIME! HURRY!!
LIRA, PLEASE.
UGH, WHAT A PAIN...

IT'S A SPIDER MAN!!
WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED, MR. WOLFE?
A SPIDER MAN...?
YES, A SPIDER MAN! CRAWLING AROUND THE CEILING!
HE'S REALLY DRUNK...
IT WAS EDDIE JOHNSON!!
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK
HE CAME BACK FROM HELL TO GET HIS REVENGE ON ME!!
AND HE GLARED AT ME FROM THE CEILING...

SHUT OFF THE BREAKER ALREADY! HURRY, OR...
HEY! WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG!?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING...?
EDDIE!?
EDDIE JOHN-SON IS...
SHUT
NO, LIRA SHUT OFF THE BREAKER.
YOU'RE DOING THAT ON PURPOSE.
EEK! IS THE WORLD ENDING!?

TH... THEY MADE IT...
HEH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
I WIN!!
HEH...

YOU SEE THAT!?
YOU WON'T KILL ME THAT EASILY...
HUH...?


HONEST-LY... WHAT IS GOING ON?
ALL THIS RACKET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...
IS THAT ENOUGH?
I'M TURNING THE POWER BACK ON!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, MR. WOLFE?

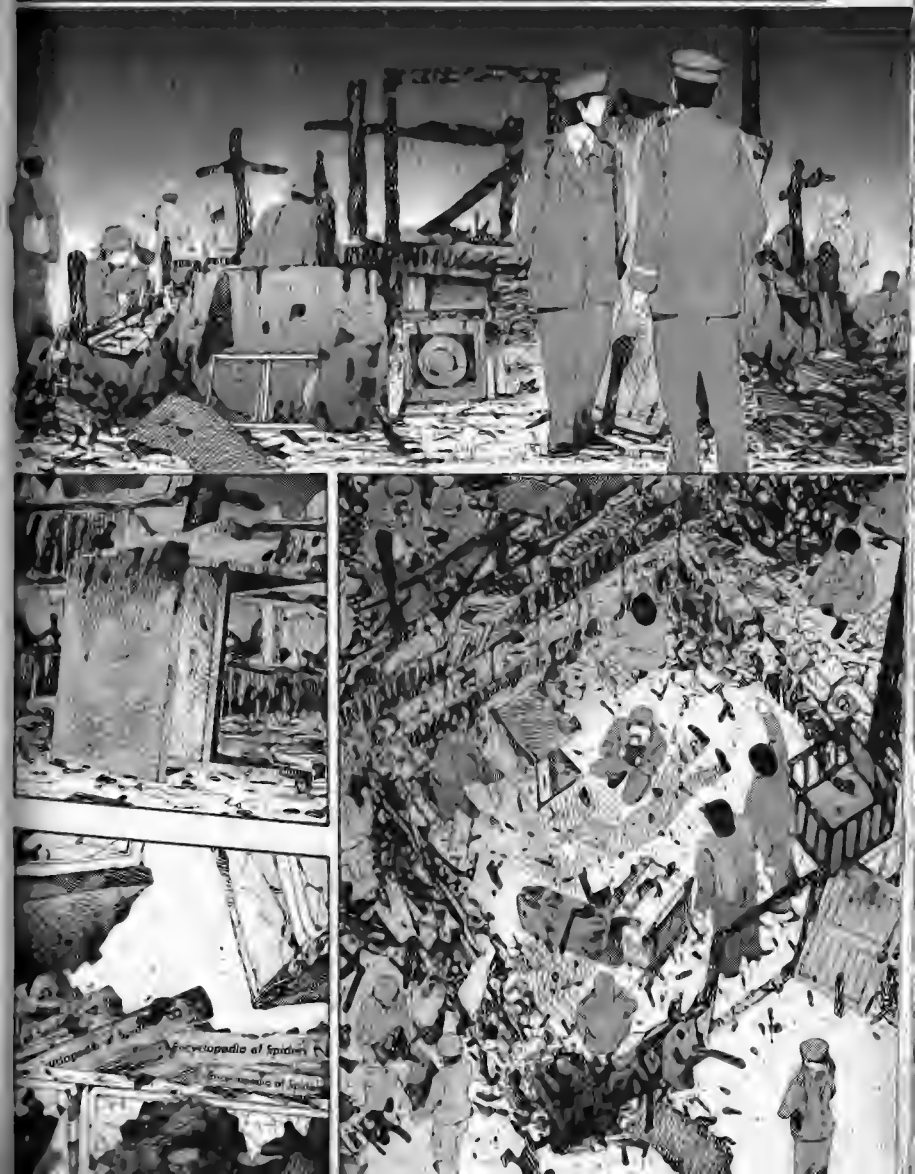
WHAT'S WRONG, LIRA?
AHHH...
EEEEEEEEE-
!?
...O...
OUT THERE...

FWOOOOOOM

THE DEN OF SPIDERS...
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACK
...IT'S ON FIRE!!?

SEPTEMBER 21, 1:17 AM

(DEN OF SPIDERS): BURNT REMAINS



LOOKS LIKE THE FIRE WAS LIT AFTER SOMEBODY DOUSED THE PLACE IN KEROSENE.
WHOA, SMELL THAT KEROSENE, PAL!
IT'S TWISTING MY NOSE OFF!
YEAH.
AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT WASN'T THE SMOKE THAT KILLED THE VICTIM.
OWAH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, PAL!?
HELLO.
I GUESS I JUST KIND OF ENDED UP HERE...
OR SOME-THING...
YOU CAN'T JUST WALTZ IN HERE!!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
PLEASE EXPLAIN.

THIS IS DETECTIVE DICK GUMSHOE.
YEESH.
YOU GET MIXED UP IN WAY TOO MANY MURDERS, PAL!
HE LOOKS INTIMIDATING AT FIRST, BUT HE'S A GOOD-NATURED LOCAL DETECTIVE WHO HELPS ME OUT WHEN I'M IN TROUBLE.
YOU SAID IT WASN'T THE FIRE THAT KILLED HIM...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WE WON'T KNOW FOR SURE UNTIL AFTER THE AUTOPSY...
BUT I DON'T SEE ANY EVIDENCE THAT HE INHALED SMOKE, PAL.
AND...

IT'S PROBABLY THE INJURY THAT KILLED HIM.
THERE'S A BIG LUMP ON THE BACK OF HIS HEAD.
HIS NECK'S BROKEN, AND BASED ON THE BLOODSTAINS, IT COULDN'T BE ANY-THING ELSE.
LOOKS LIKE IT, PAL.
THAT'S TERRI-BLE...
WHO WOULD DO THAT!?
SO HE DIDN'T DIE BECAUSE OF THE FIRE...
SOMEBODY KILLED HIM WITH A BLOW TO THE HEAD...!?
EVERY-ONE'S STILL AT THE MAN-SION, RIGHT, PAL?
I WANT TO HEAR EVERY-THING!

SEPTEMBER 21, 1:43 AM
PARLOR
WE JUST GOT THE LAB RESULTS, PAL.
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
MR. WOLFE WAS MURDERED!?
IS IT TRUE...?
BUT THERE ARE EIGHT SECURITY CAMERAS ON THE PREMISES.
A BUZZER GOES OFF IF THEY DETECT ANY INTRUDERS, RIGHT...?
MAYBE SOMEONE SNUCK IN AND KILLED HIM...
HE DID HAVE A LOT OF ENEMIES...

FLASH
SO YOU'RE SAYING—
—ONE OF YOU IS THE KILLER...!?
ZAM
ZOOM
GHN

DON'T TELL ME HE DID IT...!?
HOW DID THEY DO IT!?
EVEN IF ONE OF THEM IS THE MURDERER,
DEAR!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE?
BUT... AS FAR AS I KNOW, EVERYONE HAS AN ALIBI.
WHAT IN THE WORLD COULD IT ALL MEAN!!?
A SPIDER MAN CRAWLING ON THE CEILING
AND THE MYSTERIOUS LAST WORDS WE HEARD FROM MR. WOLFE...

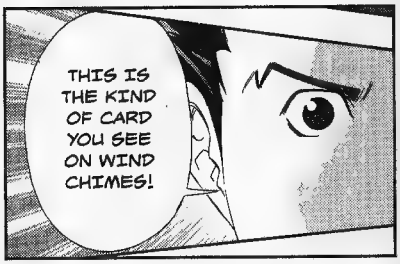
TRANSLATION NOTES

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

You're so spoony, Larry, page 15

Maya is commenting simultaneously on Larry's amorousness as well as the praises he sings for his new love. (In some circles, it's common knowledge that bards are spoony.) In the Japanese, she says that the underpart of Larry's nose is growing. This is partially a reference to one's nose growing due to boasts of questionable veracity, but mostly a reference to the Japanese idiom wherein the underside of a nose being long indicates that a man likes the ladies.

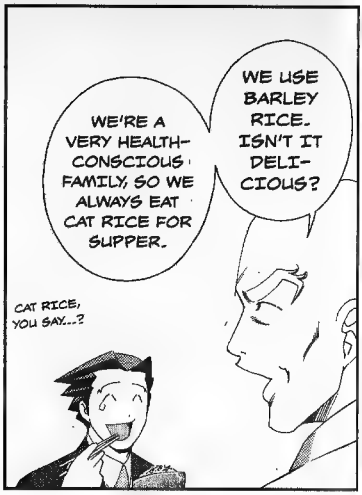
This is the kind of card you see on wind chimes!, page 50



Japanese wind chimes, like the ones featured at the Gourd Lake festival, have a card hanging from the clapper in the bell. The card catches the wind, causing the bell to chime. These cards can have poems or wishes written on them. In the case of Larry's gift to Belle, the card is covered in hearts, to express his love for her.

Cat rice, page 99

Rice with fish flakes is known as cat rice, or *nekomanma* in Japan. Mr. Wolfe makes the dish sound fancier by calling it that, but it's actually a very cheap dish, which is why Phoenix and Maya have already had quite enough of it.


WE'RE A VERY HEALTH-CONSCIOUS FAMILY, SO WE ALWAYS EAT CAT RICE FOR SUPPER.
WE USE BARLEY RICE. ISN'T IT DELI-CIOUS?
CAT RICE, YOU SAY...?

EVERYTHING FROM ACADEMIC BOOKS TO EN-CYCLOPEDIAS, NOVELS, COM-ICS... THEY'RE ALL VERY VALU-ABLE BOOKS.
I WOULDN'T BE EXAGGERATING IF I TOLD YOU HE'S COLLECTED EVERY SPIDER BOOK IN THE WORLD.
THERE'S SPIDER-MAN COMICS OVER HERE!
AND ALL OF THOSE BOOKS ARE ABOUT SPIDERS, TOO?
"THE SPIDER'S THREAD," "ANANSI THE SPIDER"...HE EVEN HAS *KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN*.

"The Spider's Thread," "Anansi the Spider," and *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, page 134

These are only a few samples to illustrate how vast Bobby's collection of spider books is. "The Spider's Thread" is a Japanese short story about a sinner whose one good deed in life is that he saved a spider, and that spider's thread gives him a chance to escape from hell. "Anansi the Spider" is an Ashanti folk hero. *Kiss of the Spider Woman* is an Argentinian novel about two prisoners in Buenos Aires who form an intimate relationship, and actually has very little to do with spiders.

PREVIEW OF PHOENIX WRIGHT: ACE ATTORNEY 2

We're pleased to present you a preview from *Phoenix Wright: Ace Attorney 2*. Please check our website (www.kodanshacomics.com) to see when this volume will be available in English. For now you'll have to make do with Japanese!

あれ……
ここは……？
はっ!!?
なっ
なんだ
これは!?
おい
成歩堂
!?

第4話
逆転の死刑台③

うわっ
うわぁあ
なんだ
オマエは
〜〜〜〜っ!?
ナナナナ
ナナナナ
たっ
助けて・・
助けて
くれ〜〜っ!!

助けて～～～
ひいいいい
～～～～～っ
なるほどくんっ
なるほどくん
ってば――!!
バタ
バタ
バタ
はっ!!
ハア
ハア
…なんだ
夢か……
こんな夢を見たのは
あの事件のせいだ……
蜘蛛屋敷……
拘束イス……
そして〝蜘蛛男〟……!!
一体なんだったんだ!?
居眠り
してる場合
じゃないよ
お客さんが
来てるん
だから
え?
よいしょと

わあっ

あ…
あなたは
確か…

大学教授の
山城さん…

成歩堂先生
お願いじゃ！
彼を救って
やってくれっ

彼は
何もして
おらんの
じゃ～～～

彼って
……

まさか
…!!

事件の夜

糸鋸刑事！

倉庫に
隠れていた
怪しい男を
引っ捕らえましたッ

え？

かなり酔っ払っている様子でありますからしてッ!!
フラ
フラ
うぅぅ…もう飲めないよぉぉぉ…
しかも彼のズボンのポケットに
犯行に使われたと思われるライターがありますからしてッ!!
え!? 叔父さんはタバコなんか吸わないのに
笹夫さん! まさかあなたが殺したの!?
逮捕ッス!!!
今すぐその男を逮捕するッス!!!

笹夫くんは
無実じゃ……
誰も殺しておらん
虫一匹殺せない
気弱な青年が
実の兄を殺すなんて……
そんな大それたこと
できるわけがないっ
頼むっ
このとおり
じゃ！
笹夫くんの
弁護をして
くれんか!!
うわわわっ
でも……
弁護すると
いっても……
彼の有罪は
ほぼ確定で
いいやっ
彼は絶対に
人殺しなんて
しとらん!!

9月22日午前10時22分 別邸（蜘蛛屋敷）焼け跡

ぼくたちはここへ来る前
留置場へ行き小森笹夫から
詳しい話を聞こうとした
しかし
蜘蛛が一匹残らず
死んでしまったことに
彼は激しいショックを
受けたのか…
ほとんどまともな会話に
ならなかった
もちろん
それが演技である
可能性も
否定できないのだけど…
防犯カメラには
外部からの
侵入者は映って
なかったし
その時
内部にいた
あたしたちには
全員アリバイが
あるし…
やっぱり犯人は
笹夫さん以外に
考えられないよね
うぐぐぐん…
フッ…
私の勝ちは
決まったも
同然だな
!?

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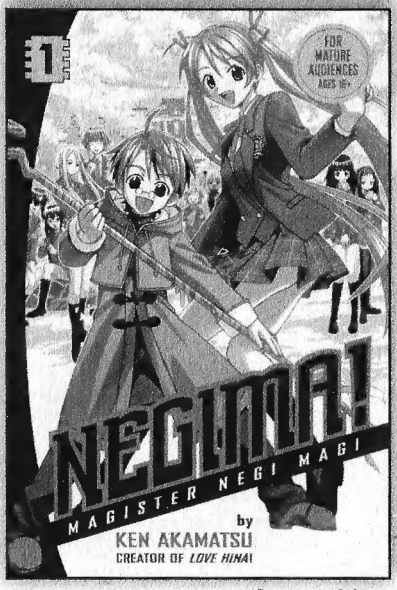

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